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William Wilberforce and the abolitionists

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The philosopher who defined the Far East

FRENCH REVOLUTIONS
Tour de France in pics

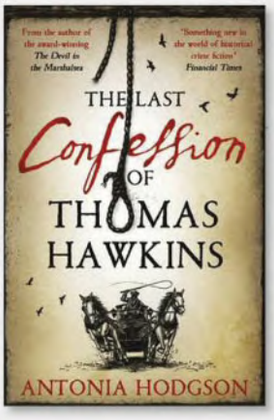
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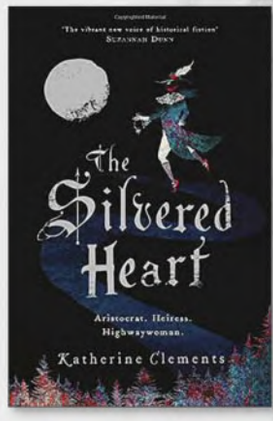
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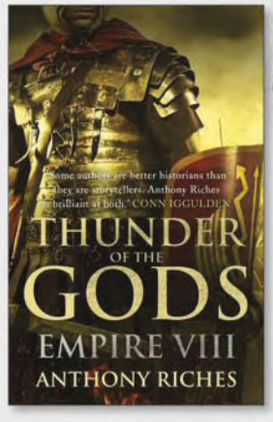




Available now on the H for History blog:

- Award-winning Antonia Hodgson on cock-fighting and cruelty in the 18th Century
- SD Sykes on crime and plague in medieval times
- Katherine Clements on a portrait of Lady Katherine Ferrers, the alleged 'Wicked Lady' highwaywoman
- Antony Riches on balancing fact and fiction in historical novels





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Welcome



Shortly after defeating Harold at the Battle of Hastings, **William the Conqueror decided to build a fortress** in London – then a town of around 10,000 inhabitants. Over the best part of 1,000 years, this fortress, which became known as the Tower of London, has been home to some of history's most famous characters (although they weren't all willing) – **Anne Boleyn, Guy Fawkes, Walter Ralegh, King John, Rudolph Hess and the Krays**. The story of what is arguably the most famous castle in the world is entwined with that of England itself (*p28*).

Away from the capital, we explore history by land, sea and air: saddle up for the remarkable story of the early years of the **Tour de France**, when **riders would stop for a lunchtime beer** (*p50*); explore the ships that sailed in history, from the **Vikings' to the *Bismark*** (*p62*); and brace yourself for the incredible glider raid on Pegasus Bridge in Normandy, which **made D-Day possible** (*p64*).

Whether you like your history ancient or modern, we've plenty else to enlighten and entertain you this issue.



Don't miss the first in a new series of guides to Britain's historical treasures on page 92

While the finishing touches were being applied to **the Great Sphinx of Giza** (*p84*), so were the stones being raised at **Stonehenge** (*p92*). Both of which make the day **John Lennon met Paul McCartney** (*p22*) seem like yesterday!

I hope you enjoy your free Civil Wars poster this issue. And do keep all your emails and letters coming.

Happy reading!



If your free Civil Wars poster is missing, call 0844 245 6943*

Paul McGuinness
Editor@historyrevealed.com

Don't miss our August issue, on sale 23 July

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ON THE COVER

Your key to the big stories...



THIS MONTH WE'VE LEARNED...

41
Cyclists who finished the first Tour de France to include mountains – from a starting field of 110. *See page 50.*

£78,500
The amount paid at auction in 1994 for a recording of John Lennon's group, the Quarrymen, the day he met Paul McCartney at a local village fête. *See page 22.*

2,053
The total number of known nuclear weapons detonated on Earth – so far. *See page 20.*

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TIME CAPSULE

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July, through the ages p16

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Anatomy of the atom bomb p20

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COVER STORY TOWER OF LONDON

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Not just a prison, the Tower has been home to royalty, animals, the Mint, weapons and the Crown Jewels p30

Timeline
From Normans to Nazis, step through the Tower's epic 1,000-year history p40

Terror in the Tower
How the Tower earned its grisly reputation for terror and torture p43

Get Hooked
Spend more time in the Tower with a visit, or with these books and films p49

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JULY 2015

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The latest instalment in the acclaimed Civil War Chronicles

FIVE ARMIES, FORTY-SIX THOUSAND MEN, ONE CROWN, THE BIGGEST BATTLE OF THE AGE

2 July 1644. Five armies converge outside York. It will be a battle for honour, glory, and the fate of three kingdoms. And it will pit two great leaders - Oliver Cromwell and Prince Rupert - directly against one another for the first time. It is a day that will change the course of history. Into the cannon fire and musket smoke marches Major Innocent Stryker, battle-scarred hero of the Royalist cause. He must not only lead his men through the bloody horror and outwit his Parliamentary enemies, but uncover foul treachery on his own side. He will need every shred of experience and determination to survive. Marston Moor will be the decisive turning point in the British Civil Wars.
This is the thrilling and shocking story of that battle.

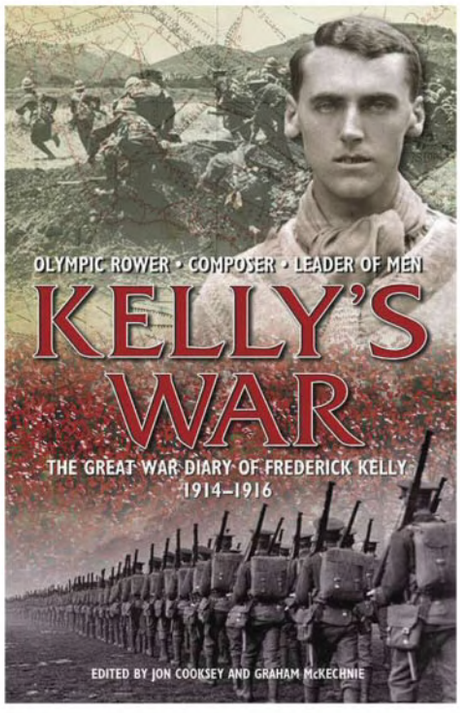
"The enigmatic Stryker promises much entertainment." *Sunday Times*

"A dark-hued romp, livid with the scents, sounds and colours of a country on the brink of implosion... impressive." *Daily Express*

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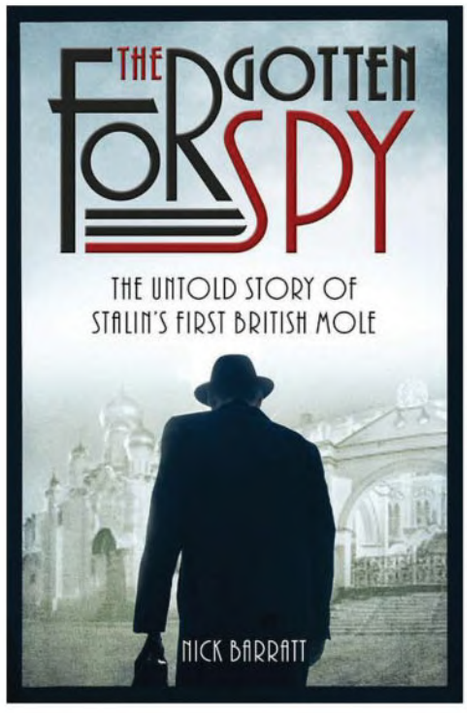
KELLY'S WAR
THE GREAT WAR DIARY OF FREDERICK KELLY 1914 – 16
BY JON COOKSEY & GRAHAM MCKECHNIE

In this extraordinary book, historians Jon Cooksey and Graham McKechnie present the story of Frederick Kelly. Olympic champion, composer, pianist, intellectual, leader of men and diarist; never before published in full, Frederick Kelly's story is a tale of courage tragedy and lost potential.

THE FORGOTTEN SPY:
THE UNTOLD STORY OF STALIN'S FIRST BRITISH MOLE
BY NICK BARRETT

In this remarkable tale about a seemingly unremarkable man, Nick Barratt delves into the murky waters of the British and Soviet secret services, to reveal the shocking story of his great uncle Ernest Holloway Oldham. Enigmatic, gripping and entertaining, Nick Barratt takes the reader on a journey through post-First World War Europe to the underworld of pre-Cold War espionage, a world and a time when everyone had something to hide.

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READERS' LETTERS

Get in touch – share your opinions on history and our magazine



THE REAL THING
As well as reading about the Acropolis in our April issue, Dr Pacak went to see the monument

LETTER OF THE MONTH

HISTORIC HOLIDAY

Regarding your Acropolis feature (Q&A, April 2015), I happened to visit Athens this week and what a place on Earth. The history stares at you from every corner of the city.

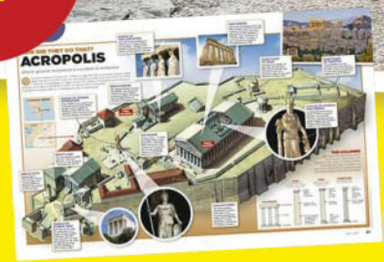
Of course, I visited the National Archaeological Museum of Athens. The replica of the Parthenon is there. But

The entry ticket also got me into many other sights as well, such as the Temple of Zeus, Kerameikos (an ancient cemetery and first gate into the city of Athens), and the Ancient Agora, which I think is second-best sight to see after the Acropolis. Fantastic.

"Athens... what a place. The history stares at you from every corner of the city."

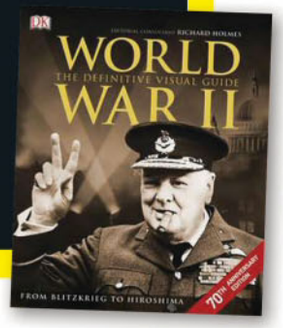
I prefer the original, which is opposite the museum building on the hill. It's breathtaking. I went to visit twice.

Athens is money and time well spent. I recommend it greatly!
Dr R Pacak,
via email



Editor replies:
As the oldest city in Europe, Athens is full of ancient sites – of which, I agree, the Acropolis must be the pinnacle. I hope our magazine offered some insight as you wandered around the c2,500-year-old site.

Dr Pacak wins *World War II: the Definitive Visual Guide* edited by Richard Holmes. Published by Dorling Kindersley, worth £25. This 70th anniversary edition tells the story of Earth's most devastating conflict.



HERO OR VILLAIN?

As a Yank, I was surprised to see Woodrow Wilson as one of the greatest US Presidents (April 2015). In my opinion, Wilson was a vile fascist tyrant and the worst US President ever.

He dragged the US into World War I – which the country had no need to enter – for no reason other than to be able to take a place at the victors' table, where he could dictate the shape of the Utopia he wanted to midwife. And by entering the war, he ensured that Britain and Germany would not come to a negotiated end to the fighting in 1917; and by wrecking the governmental systems of continental Europe, he created a vacuum that could later be filled by fascists.

He was by far the most racist of any US President. He re-segregated the US Army, fired the rising black managerial classes from the Washington DC civil service; told the great African American civil rights leader Booker T Washington that blacks are destined to be second-class citizens and would just have to learn to like it; and showed the Ku Klux Klan propaganda movie *The Birth of a Nation* in the White House. He was so impressed by that film that he opined, "It's like writing history with lightning. My only regret is that it is all so terribly true."

Wilson was arrogant and vain. He believed that the system of limited government erected by the Framers needed to be changed by a man big enough to do it (meaning no one but himself). He was vain enough to believe that his knowledge trumped the collective wisdoms of Jefferson, Madison, Franklin, Hamilton, and Washington. He was convinced that he spoke for God. He believed that the voice of the people is the voice of God, and once the people have selected a leader, the leader speaks with the authority of God and is not to be gainsaid.

Wilson could even have had his precious League of Nations which, as you note, won him the Nobel Peace Prize, had he gone along with a few amendments guaranteeing that US sovereignty would not be impinged by the new body. No way, said Wilson.

The man was evil incarnate.
Michael Nollet
Iowa, USA



MIXED REVIEWS
For one reader, Wilson's bad deeds outweigh the good

Writer Jonny Wilkes replies:
Thank you for your passionate, highly critical opinion on Woodrow Wilson. How we view former politicians will always be coloured by our own stances. While there is no denying that Wilson's actions on civil rights do not fit with his progressive reputation, he has stiff competition for the 'most racist President' award. And, far from dragging the US into WWI, Wilson was reluctant to enter the conflict. He was only convinced after the release of the Zimmerman Telegram – an attempt by Germany to ally with Mexico. He has been praised for this move, as it led America away from isolationism.

I think it's obvious that Davison was trying to put the ribbon on the King's horse rather than kill herself, it would have been fine promotion for women's votes if the horse had passed the post – cameras blazing – with that clipped to its mane.
Matthew Wilson

REMEMBER THE ALAMO

I have just finished reading the March 2015 edition of *History*



ALAMO IN ACTION
For Glenn Davis, the Alamo deserves a realistic film adaptation

Great pieces on American 'Wild West' in this month's edition, very informative
@LadyMotte

Revealed. I really enjoyed so many of the articles!

I am interested in American history, and found your article on the Alamo (Battlefield) fascinating. In answer to your question "If more Texans had rallied to Travis's aid, would the defenders have stood a chance to win the battle?" The Alamo covered three acres of land, or a perimeter of a quarter of a mile, and so 200 or so defenders were never going to win against an army of 2,200, as they had too much area to defend. I would say they would have needed at least 1,000 men to have had a victory.

The whole battle lasted just 90 minutes and, despite what the movies show us, the battle began just before sun up, not during the day! I hope that one day a film will be made showing how it really was.

There are letters and diaries written by Mexican soldiers that have added detail to the battle.
Glenn Davis,
via email

Editor replies:
An accurate depiction of the Alamo – now there's a war movie I'd like to see as well, Glenn!

THE FEW

I very much enjoyed reading the main article this month about the Battle of Britain (The Big Story, May 2015). I was, however, surprised that you missed the chance to include the poignant statue of the National Memorial to the Few at Capel-le-Ferne, Kent. A mention in your magazine will make more people aware of the memorial and visitor centre and hopefully increase the number of visitors who come and pay their respects.
Steve Fowell,
Manchester

Editor replies:
There was so much to say about the actions of the Few, that, sadly, space would not permit us to show their wonderful memorial (pictured below). The location is well worth a visit, see *www.battleofbritainmemorial.org* for details.

WHOSE LINE IS IT ANYWAY?

Regarding the Nathan Hale quotation "I only regret that I have but one life to give for my country" (Q&A, April 2015). Contemporary accounts of Hale's hanging do not mention those stirring words. It's only 30 years later that the story appears.
Jim Dore,
via email

Editor replies:
As with so many details in history, there is reason to question the authenticity of Nathan Hale's famous last words. Yet, there is no questioning the impact they had in the American Revolutionary War and the fact that they are forevermore connected to the man. You don't have one without the other so, whether they were actually said or not, they are part of Nathan Hale's history.

Thank You *History Revealed* for mentioning overseas fighter pilots fighting in Battle of Britain and top score of Polish No 303 Squadron.
Pawel Baron



ONE FOR ALL
The National Memorial to the Few at Capel-le-Ferne, Kent

ARE YOU A WINNER?

The lucky winners of the crossword from issue 15 are:
Stella Kemp, Kent
Anne Jenkins, Hampshire
V Benjamin, East Sussex
Congratulations! You have each won a copy of ***Young Lawrence: a Portrait of the Legend as a Young Man*** by Anthony Sattin, worth £25.
To test your wits this month, turn to page 96.

GET IN TOUCH

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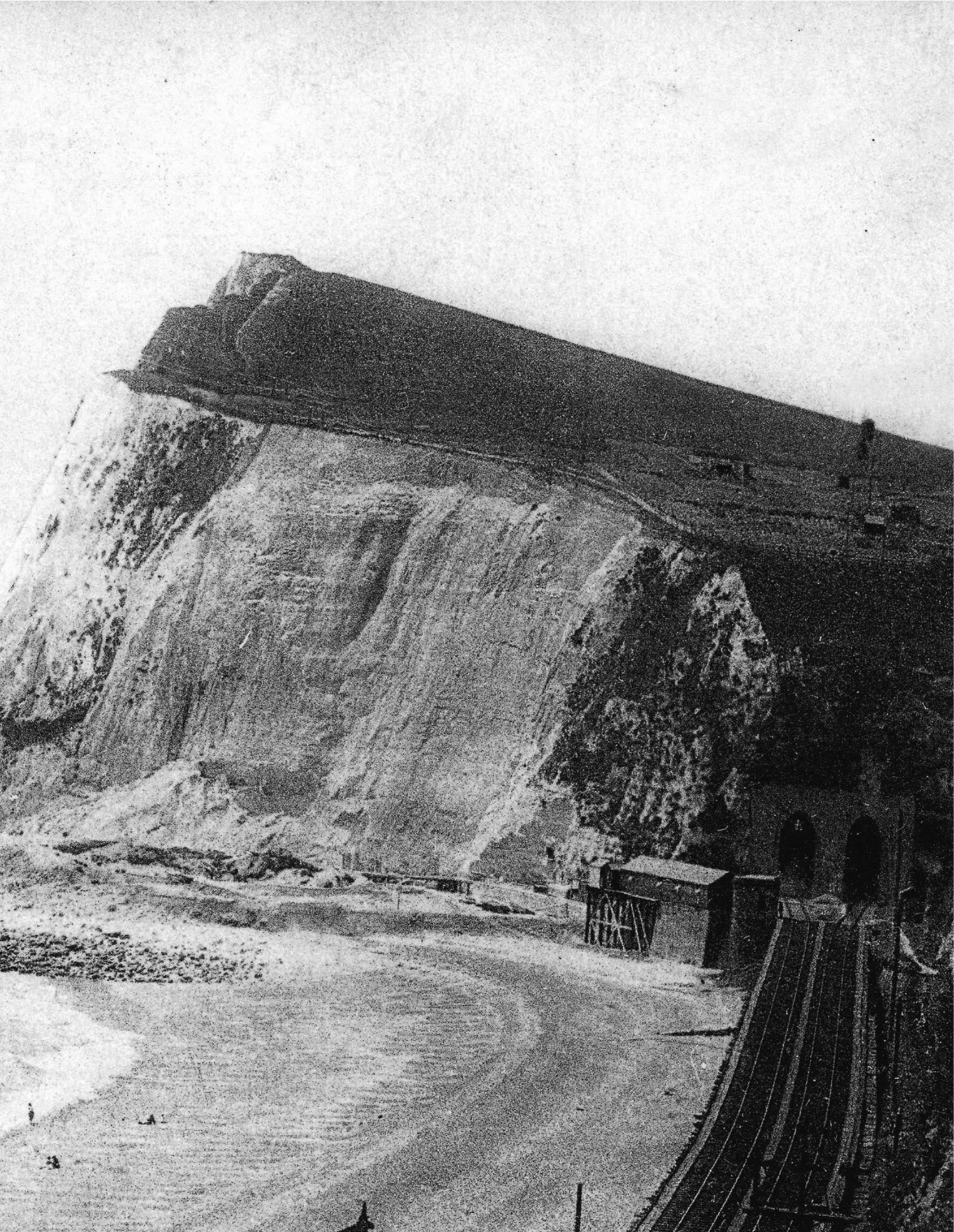
SNAPSHOT

1909 CHANNEL HOPPING

On 25 July 1909, French aviator Louis Blériot wins the race to make the first crossing of the English Channel in a plane, despite being on crutches, getting lost (which was a tense moment as he couldn't swim) and ending his 36-minute flight with a crash landing at Dover.

A mustachioed Blériot squeaked past his main competitor, fellow Frenchman Hubert Latham, by taking off at dawn. Believing that the weather was going to be bad that day, Latham was still in bed by the time Blériot had landed.

GETTY





PRESS ASSOCIATION

SNAPSHOT

1946 STOP LYNCHING

As lynchings are still distressingly common in the United States in 1946, representatives of the National Association of Coloured Women march in front of the White House in protest. Since the emancipation of the slaves, thousands of African-Americans were hanged as public demonstrations of white power. Large crowds turned out, and onlookers would proudly pose for photographs. Violence against African-Americans only intensified during the Civil Rights movements of the fifties and sixties.


Massachusetts Delegation
Massachusetts Protests ALL Injustices
Louisiana Delegation
Stop Lynching Let Real Democracy Prevail
Kentucky Delegation
Kentucky Women demand Justice for all American Citizens



SNAPSHOT

1980 GIMME FIVE!

Wimbledon has seen some incredible tennis matches in its history, and few are greater than the men's final on 5 July 1980.

It was the meeting of fire and ice, with the combustible 21-year-old John McEnroe hoping to topple the cool, steely-eyed world number one, Björn Borg, from claiming his fifth Wimbledon title in a row. McEnroe saved championship points in an epic fourth-set tie-break, but it wasn't enough. Borg hit a superb passing shot to win the match 8-6 in the fifth set, sending a defeated Mac collapsing to the ground. He got his own back a year later, however, when the pair met in the 1981 final as McEnroe won the first of his three Wimbledon titles.

WALTER IOOSS JR./SPORTS ILLUSTRATED/GETTY



"I READ THE NEWS TODAY..."

Weird and wonderful, it all happened in **July**



HANDEL WITH CARE
George I enjoyed Handel's *Water Music* so much, he asked it to be played three times during his trip, totalling three hours of performing.

SOUND WAVES

1717 ORCHESTRA GETS ITS SEA LEGS

With his popularity waning in 1717, King George I was advised to win back his people with a **grand spectacle**. So, on 17 July, he boarded the royal barge at Whitehall with a coterie of aristocrats, while a second barge followed providing musical entertainment as they sailed the Thames. This, however, was no ordinary performance. Esteemed composer **George Frideric Handel** conducted a 50-strong orchestra, playing his new *Water Music* while riding the waves. It worked a treat for George – the Thames filled with boats as people clamoured to hear the great Handel's latest.

MOVING TO TINSEL TOWN

1923 A SIGN OF THINGS TO COME

Today, the Hollywood sign is an icon of the glitz and glamour of the movie industry, but when it was erected in 1923, it held a different purpose. Originally reading '**Hollywoodland**', the sign was built by real estate mogul Harry Chandler to advertise his new housing development in Los Angeles. The **five-storey letters** cost around $21,000 (£200,000 in today's money) and were illuminated by 4,000 bulbs. It was very flimsy, however, as the letters were held up by telephone poles. For a time in the 1940s, it read 'Ollywoodland' when **the 'H' was destroyed** after Albert Kothe, the sign's caretaker, drove into it while drunk.

THE BEST THING SINCE...

1928 USE YOUR LOAF

It took 16 years for American inventor Otto Frederick Rohwedder's vision of a **bread-slicing machine** to be realised, but it was worth the wait. The first loaf went on sale in a Missouri bakery on 7 July 1928 – with the slogan, 'The greatest forward step in the baking industry since bread was wrapped'. It wasn't long before his machine – which silenced the critics who argued it would make the **bread go stale** quicker – was hailed as the best thing since... well, sliced bread.

NOT A TOT

1970 WHY IS THE RUM GONE?

On 31 July 1970, Royal Navy sailors wore black armbands and staged funeral processions to mark the end of an era – their daily rum ration, a tradition that had **lasted over 300 years**. At six bells (11am) every day, sailors awaited the call of 'Up spirits!' to ring out on ship so they could collect their 70ml tot – although it was gradually watered down over the centuries as issues of drunkenness became too frequent. After 'Black Tot Day', however, there were no more tots to be enjoyed and the question, '**what shall we do with the drunken sailor?**', seemed to lose all importance.

GREAT AUK'S AWFUL END

1844 THE END OF A SPECIES

Resembling a penguin or a puffin, the **flightless, 75cm-tall Great Auk** used to be spotted on rocky outcrops across the North Atlantic – until hunting drove them to extinction. Their fate was sealed in 1844 when three fishermen made landfall on the small island of Edley, near Iceland, and **killed the last pair for a collector**. The Great Auks were strangled, and their egg destroyed.

ALAMY X1, BRIDGEMAN IMAGES X1, GETTY X3, ISTOCK X2





Sliced bread was banned in America during World War II to conserve materials and factory labour for the war effort.

IT'S A KNOCK OUT
1889 BOXING BONANZA

The final world title to be decided under the London Prize Ring Rules – bare-knuckle boxing – was a **send-off full of drama**. Firstly, the sport was illegal in the United States so the location of the bout between John Sullivan and Jake Kilrain was kept a secret (although that didn't stop 3,000 people flocking to the hastily built ring in a Mississippi field aboard special trains). Then the fight, on 8 July 1889, lasted a **lung-busting 75 rounds**. There are reports the pugilists were drinking whiskey in their corners, which may explain why **Sullivan vomited** in the 44th round. But he somehow still won. Kilrain's manager ended the fight after being warned his man could die if he kept going.

"...OH BOY"

July events that changed the world

18 JULY AD 64
FANCY A FIDDLE NERO?
Rome is devastated by fire, with many blaming the unpopular Emperor Nero.

6 JULY 1483
RICHARD REX
Richard III, the final monarch of the Plantagenet dynasty, is crowned.

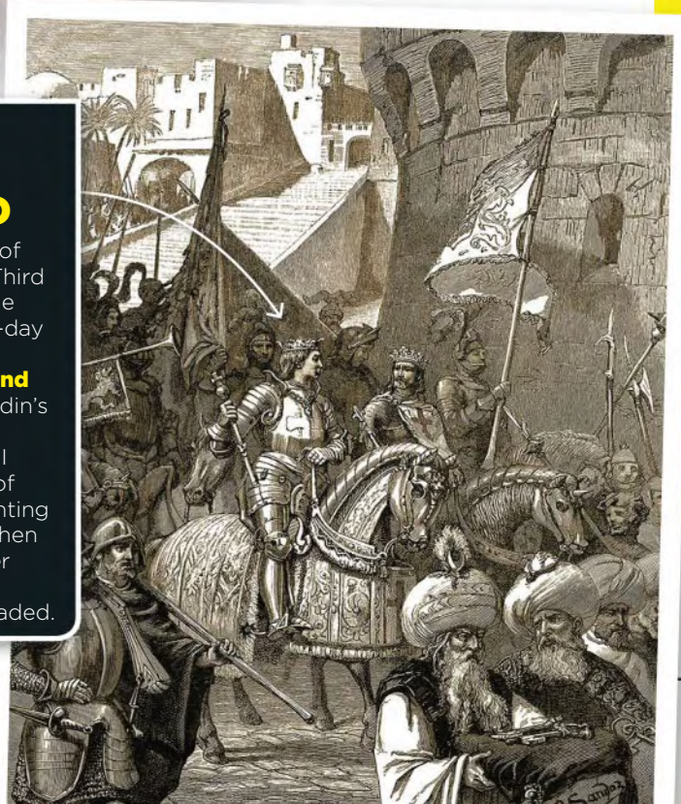
14 JULY 1789
STORM BREWS AT BASTILLE
Angry Parisians storm the infamous fortress and prison, the Bastille, sparking the French Revolution.

15 JULY 1834
"NOBODY EXPECTS..."
The Spanish Inquisition, which had executed thousands since its formation in 1478, is disbanded.

9 JULY 1877
GAME, SET AND MATCH
The world's first official lawn tennis tournament is held at Wimbledon.

20 JULY 1969
THE EAGLE HAS LANDED
Neil Armstrong becomes the first human to step foot on the Moon.

1 JULY 1997
HONG KONG GONE
British rule in Hong Kong ends when the region is handed over to China.



CRUSADES CONTINUE
1191 ACRES OF LAND CAPTURED

After nearly two years, the Siege of Acre, a bloody encounter of the Third Crusade, ended on 12 July 1191. The Muslim-held port city (in modern-day Israel) fell to the Crusaders – who were facing **disease, starvation and brutal counter-attacks** from Saladin's army – when Kings Richard I (the Lionheart) of England and Philip II of France arrived just in the nick of time with reinforcements. But fighting broke out **almost immediately** when negotiations over Acre's surrender broke down and Richard ordered some 2,700 prisoners to be beheaded.

AND FINALLY...

Although Americans celebrate Independence Day on **4 July** – the day the Declaration of Independence was approved in 1776 – the Thirteen Colonies actually separated legally from Britain **two days earlier**.

BRITAIN'S BIGGEST EVENING SALE

Evening News

LONDON: THURSDAY JULY 27 1978 8p

LATE SPECIAL CITY PRICES

Meet Louise, the world's first test-tube arrival

SUPERBABE



Wide-eyed Louise Brown pictured in hospital 18 hours after she was born. Today she's doing well. See Page Three

© World Copyright Associated Newspapers Group Ltd., 1978.

RUNS IN THE FAMILY
Louise may have been the first test-tube baby, but she wasn't the only one in the Brown family. Four years after the breakthrough birth, **Louise's sister, Natalie**, was born having been conceived by IVF.

JOHN FROST NEWSPAPERS, GETTY X1, PA X1

YESTERDAY'S PAPERS

On **27 July 1978**, the first-ever 'test-tube baby' was welcomed to the world

"IT'S HELPED MILLIONS ALL AROUND THE WORLD" LOUISE BROWN

Louise Joy Brown was born just before midnight on 25 July 1978, healthy and weighing 5lbs 12 oz. Once her delighted parents had enjoyed private time with their daughter, Louise was whisked away to meet the world's press, who had flocked to Oldham General Hospital to cover the birth of both this baby girl and a revolution in fertility treatment. Louise was the first child ever to be born by *in vitro* fertilisation (IVF).

This breakthrough was possible thanks to Dr Robert Edwards, a Cambridge University physiologist, and gynaecologist Dr Patrick Steptoe. They had worked on alternative methods of conception since the 1960s, which involved removing an egg and fertilising it in a petri dish, but Louise's mother, Lesley, was the first woman whose pregnancy lasted the full term. She and her husband John had been unsuccessfully trying for a baby for nine years, so were willing to give this experimental IVF procedure a go. Lesley's pregnancy was smoother than could have been hoped, with constant attention by Edwards and Steptoe (and the media). Shortly before the due date, however, she developed high blood pressure so the child was delivered by caesarean.

The medical miracle of Louise's birth gave hope to couples unable to conceive, but not everyone welcomed the first 'test-tube' baby. Ever since, IVF has raised ethical and medical issues, and condemnation from religious groups that doctors were 'playing God'. That still hasn't stopped an estimated 5 million IVF babies being born worldwide to date.



LANDMARK LIFE
ABOVE: **Dr Robert Edwards cradles the newborn Louise, next to the midwife and Dr Patrick Steptoe**
RIGHT: **Louise, in 2013, holds up the incubator where her embryo grew**



MEDICAL MARVEL
In 2010, Dr Edwards was awarded the **Nobel Prize for Medicine** for his work with IVF treatment – a move criticised by the Vatican. His colleague, Dr Steptoe, had died in 1988 so could not be considered for a prize.

1978 ALSO IN THE NEWS...

1 JULY In front of a friendly audience in the small Kentucky town of Hyden, former **President Richard Nixon** gives his first public speech since the Watergate scandal forced him to resign in 1974.

7 JULY The Solomon Islands, north-east of Australia, gain independence, after 85 years as a British protectorate. During World War II, the islands had seen some of the **fiercest fighting in the Pacific theatre**.

13 JULY To celebrate his 65th birthday, American long-distance swimmer **Walter Poenisch sets off from Havana, Cuba**, and heads for Florida. It takes him over 34 hours to reach the United States.

GRAPHIC HISTORY

Every known nuclear detonation

1945 NUCLEAR WEAPON TESTED

*At 5.29am on **16 July 1945**, Trinity, the world's first atomic weapon, was tested in New Mexico. A new age of warfare had begun*

Since the US tested its Trinity weapon, six other nations are known to have developed such bombs. Their devastating trials have peppered the globe, as this map shows...

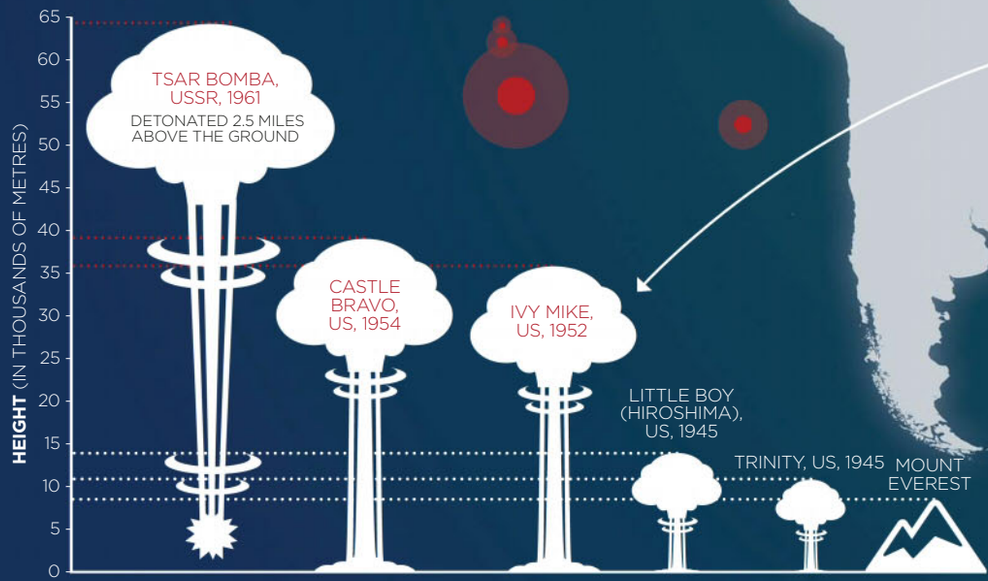
21 KILOTONS

The **energy release** of the Trinity weapon – it is equivalent to the explosion produced by 21,000 tons of TNT.

21,000 X

MUSHROOM CLOUD

The height of a 'nukecloud' reflects the weapon's size and impact



Ivy Mike was the first thermonuclear weapon, or **H-bomb**, to be tested, and it heralded a great leap in the power of such weapons. It is thought to have had 1,000 times the impact of Little Boy, with a yield of 10.4 megatons.

THE COLD WAR

After the atomic bombs were dropped on Japan in August 1945, WWII came to a swift close. But **the peace didn't last**. The former Allies began squaring up for dominance, the main rivals being the USSR and the US. The conflict was waged more in political, economical and propaganda spheres than with active warfare, partly because the rise of nuclear weapons

INFOGRAPHIC: TIDY DESIGNS

50 MEGATONS

The 1961 test of the USSR's AN602 hydrogen bomb, also known as **Tsar Bomba**, is the **biggest man-made explosion** in history. It measured 50 megatons – that's 1,400 times the combined explosions of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

DETONATED NUCLEAR WEAPONS

NUCLEAR WEAPONS TESTS

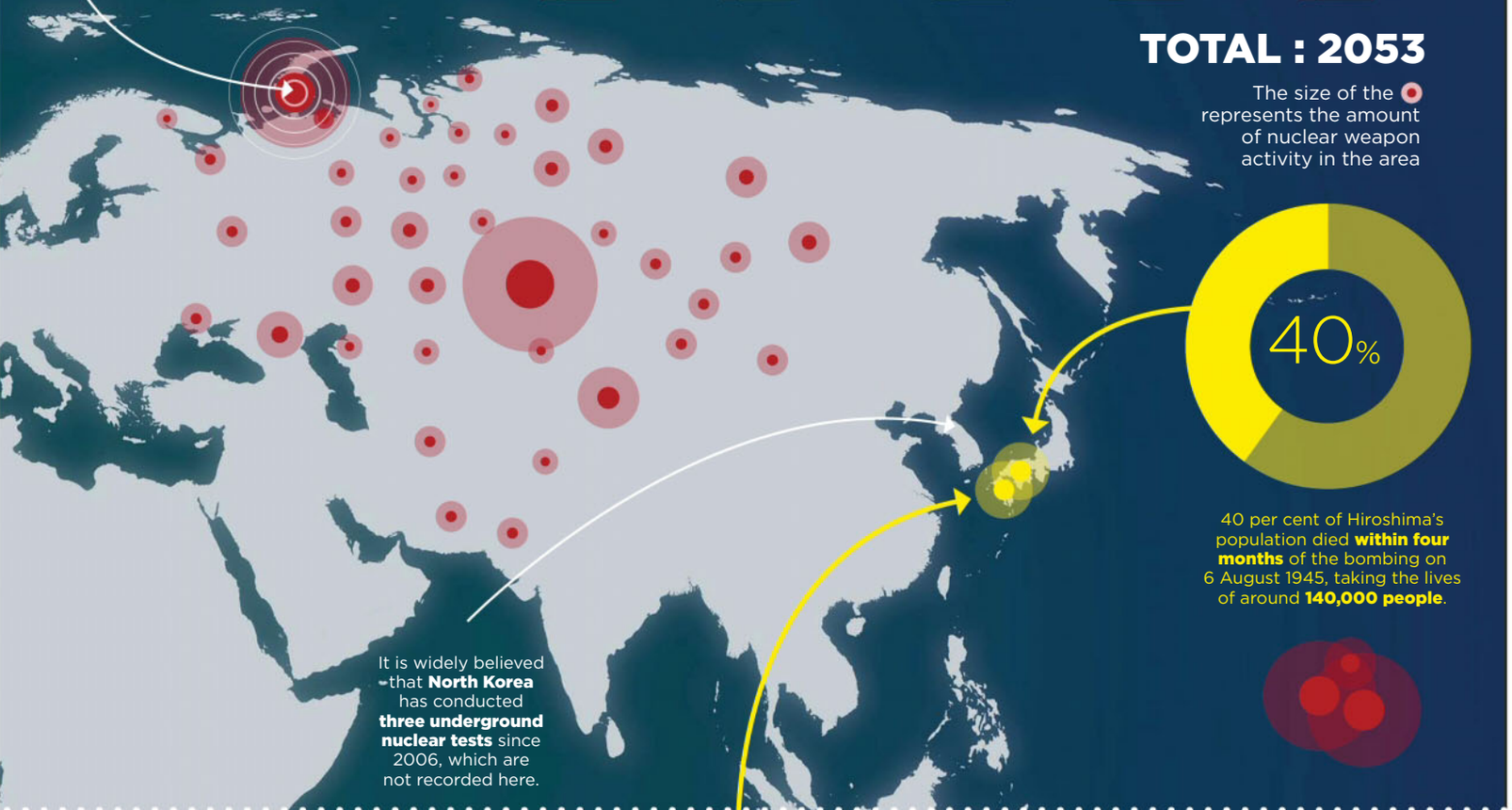
- UK **45**
- FRANCE **210**
- USSR **715**
- USA **1030**
- PAKISTAN **2**
- INDIA **4**
- CHINA **45**

NUCLEAR WEAPONS USED IN WARFARE

- USA **2**

TOTAL : 2053

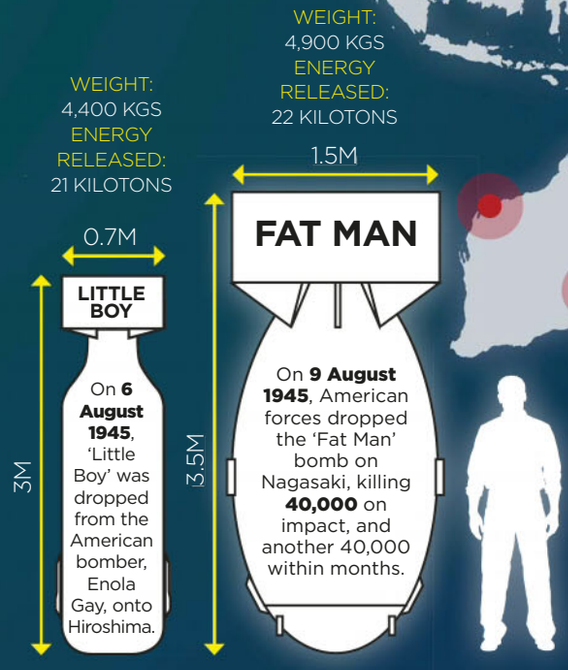
The size of the ● represents the amount of nuclear weapon activity in the area



40 per cent of Hiroshima's population died **within four months** of the bombing on 6 August 1945, taking the lives of around **140,000 people**.

It is widely believed that **North Korea** has conducted **three underground nuclear tests** since 2006, which are not recorded here.

had made the threat of outright war terrifying for all. In an **ever-escalating nuclear stalemate**, both sides continued to develop their atomic powers. Potential death tolls rose and rose, but neither belligerent dared do anything other than test their weapons. The rivalry rumbled on until the USSR was dissolved in 1991.



WHAT HAPPENED NEXT?

The 20th century's most important musical relationship is formed in a Liverpool scout hut

1957 LENNON AND MCCARTNEY MEET FOR THE FIRST TIME

When two teenagers met at a summer fête, nobody could have predicted the impact they would have on the world just a few years later as the Beatles...

The summer of 1957 was the hottest since records began, and Saturday 6 July was a stifling, muggy day. The craze for homemade 'skiffle' music was at its peak and the organisers of the Woolton village fête, in a leafy Liverpool suburb, had booked one of the local groups to play. The Quarrymen were, in essence, a gang formed at the nearby Quarry Bank school, led by a 16-year-old John Lennon.

Dressing for an afternoon out with his pal Ivan Vaughan, Paul McCartney pulled on his white sports jacket. Despite the heat, the 15-year-old was confident this would be a hit with the girls at the fête at St Peter's Church, where Ivan's friend John was playing with his band. 'Ivy' promised to introduce Paul to John, promising that, as they shared a love of rock'n'roll music, they were bound to hit it off.

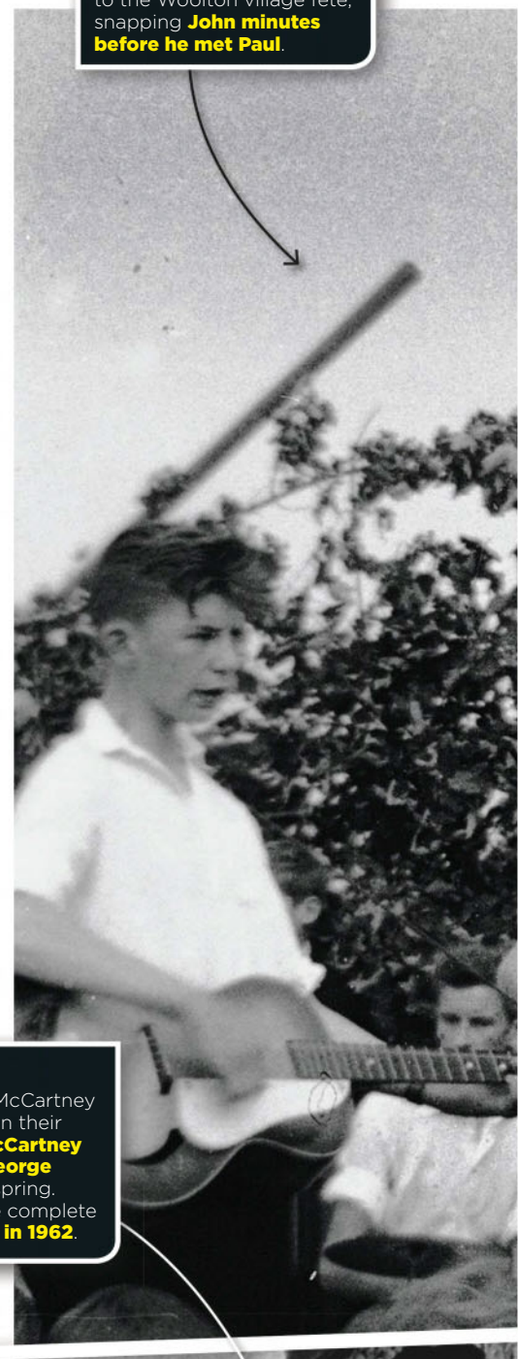
DAYDREAMER

The band was already playing by the time McCartney had cycled over from his Allerton home, and he was immediately struck by the singer, who was dressed in a red-and-white checked shirt. "My first impression was that it was amazing how he was making up the words," he would later recall. "He was singing *Come With Me to the Penitentiary* and he didn't know one of the words. He was making up every one as he went along. I thought it was great."

After the band's afternoon set, the Quarrymen wandered across to the scout hut, to dump their guitars and relax. Allegedly, it was here that Vaughan introduced Lennon to McCartney. Soon, talk turned to music, and, never one to hold back, McCartney asked for a go on Lennon's guitar. Despite it being strung for a right-hander, the left-handed McCartney turned it upside-down and played Eddie Cochran's *Twenty Flight Rock*. Lennon was impressed the youngster knew the words – all of them. Once into his stride, McCartney didn't let up. He switched to piano and launched into his wild Little Richard impersonation, hammering the keys while screaming *Long Tall Sally* just like the flamboyant rocker so admired by Lennon.

As the story goes, once the fête had wrapped up, John, Paul, Ivan and a few others made for the pub, in the hope of getting served. But when they heard some local tough was on the prowl looking for a fight, they abandoned the plan. So McCartney hopped on his bike and cycled home to his dad.

COME TOGETHER
Geoff Rhind, a school pal of Lennon and his band, brought his camera along to the Woolton village fête, snapping **John minutes before he met Paul**.

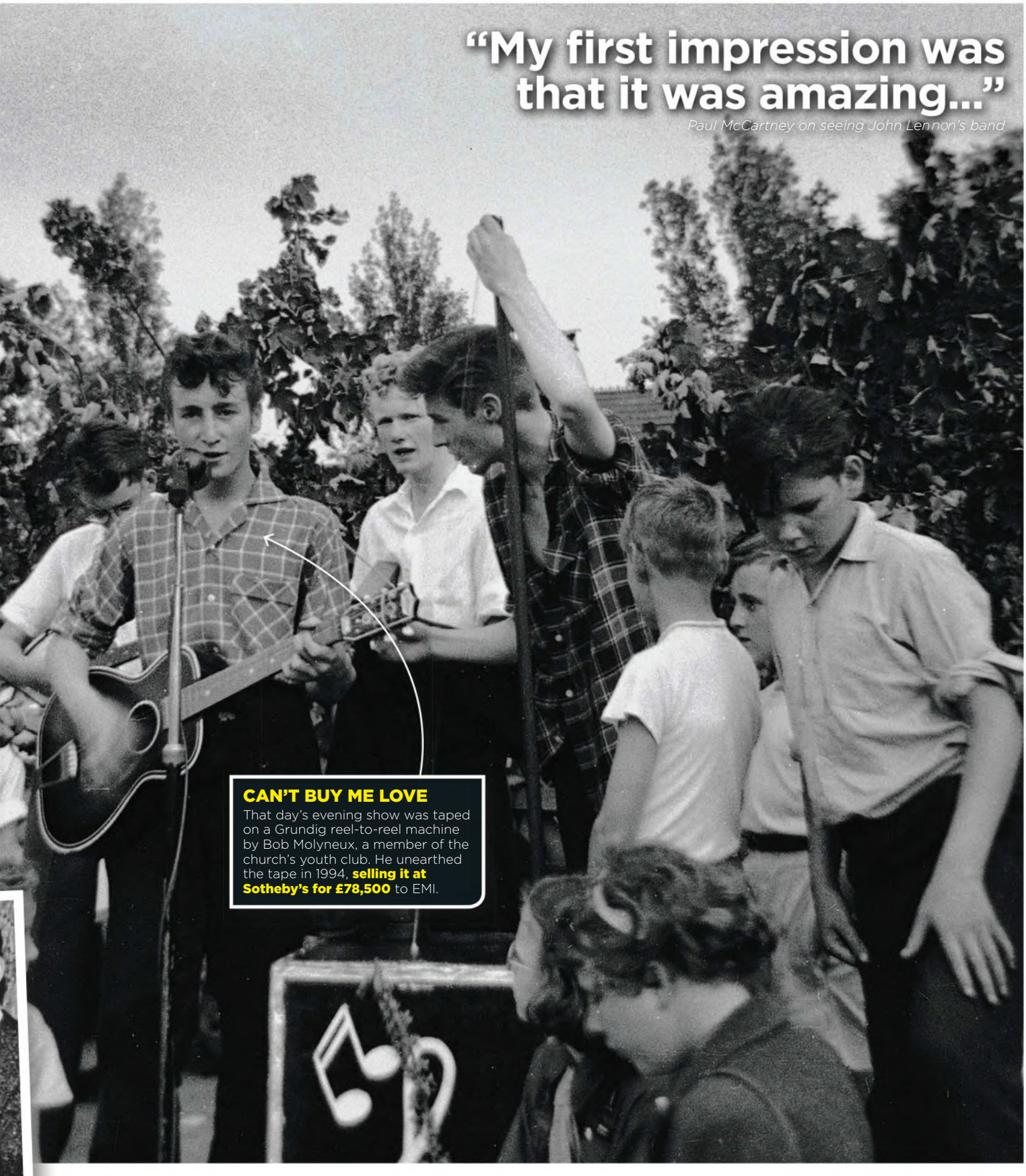


RIGHT: **6 July 1957, John Lennon (at mic) leads his group, The Quarrymen, at the Woolton village fête**
BELOW: **8 March 1958, (l-r) George Harrison, John Lennon and Paul McCartney first perform together at a relative's wedding**

THE FAB FOUR
Lennon said he invited McCartney to join the Quarrymen on their first meeting. In turn, **McCartney brought in his friend George Harrison** the following spring. The Beatles wouldn't be complete until **Ringo Starr joined in 1962**.



GEOFF RHIND X1, GETTY X1



"My first impression was that it was amazing..."

Paul McCartney on seeing John Lennon's band

CAN'T BUY ME LOVE

That day's evening show was taped on a Grundig reel-to-reel machine by Bob Molyneux, a member of the church's youth club. He unearthed the tape in 1994, **selling it at Sotheby's for £78,500** to EMI.

THE EXTRAORDINARY TALE OF...

The **shipwrecked crew** that turned to cannibalism



Captain Tom Dudley keeps the lifeboat afloat in a storm using a sea anchor

1884 CAPTAIN COMMITS COLD-BLOODED MURDER TO SURVIVE

Captain Tom Dudley's desperate decision – following days of being stranded alongside his crew in a lifeboat without food or water – would lead to a landmark legal ruling...

Public interest, and morbid curiosity, was high when judgement was passed on *Regina v Dudley and Stephens* in late 1884. The criminal case dealt with an extensively reported, gruesome incident that had taken place on the high seas of the Atlantic Ocean in July of that year, involving four shipwrecked sailors and a murder.

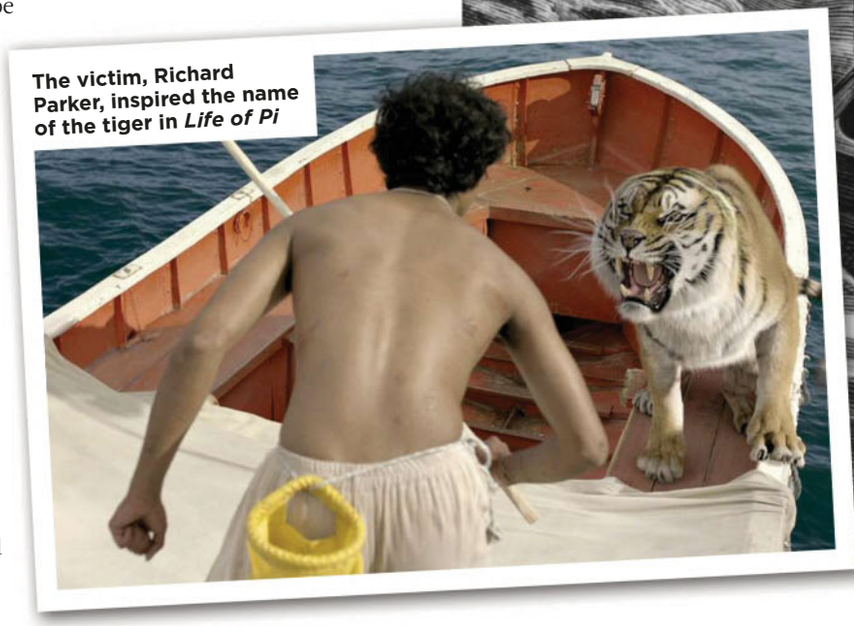
This was no clear-cut case, however, but a morally and legally murky issue. The final decision of Lord Chief Justice Lord Coleridge was hotly anticipated – and established a ground-breaking precedent in English law. Opinion was split over the case. No one could deny the overwhelmingly desperate situation the accused (two of the sailors) had faced, but did that excuse their heinous act?

CAST ADRIFT

The tragic disaster began aboard the yacht *Mignonette*, as it made the 15,000-mile voyage from Southampton to Sydney to be delivered to its new Australian owner. It was not a large vessel, so had a crew of only four: Captain Tom Dudley, Edwin Stephens, Edmund Brooks and the inexperienced 17-year-old cabin boy Richard Parker.

On 5 July, *Mignonette* was somewhere around the Cape of Good Hope when it was gravely damaged in a squall, and sank. Dudley had mere minutes to order the launch of the lifeboat and salvage what important items he could, from the navigational equipment to two tins of turnips. No one, however, brought fresh water.

Still in the grips of a storm, Dudley skillfully built a sea anchor (a form of water brake) to keep the flimsy lifeboat steady. Allegedly, that first night was also spent fending off a shark with the oars. Over the next few days, the bleakness of the situation set in, as they survived on their meagre rations of turnips. Things improved when they managed to drag a sea turtle, a valuable source of meat, on board, but food was not the most serious problem.



The victim, Richard Parker, inspired the name of the tiger in *Life of Pi*

"The deliberate killing of this unoffending and unresisting boy was clearly murder... the facts as stated are no legal justification of the homicide."

The judgement of the court, delivered by Lord Coleridge while passing sentence on Dudley and Stephens in late 1884

Without water, they had little hope of living long enough to be rescued. Following a week of dire thirst, they began to drink their own urine and a week after that, the temptation of the seawater surrounding them became too great for Parker. His health deteriorated quickly, leading the others to contemplate a desperate survival measure: cannibalism.

CUSTOM OF THE SEA

Killing and eating a person was not entirely uncommon among shipwrecked or castaway crews, but it was a recognised custom of the sea that everyone should draw lots to select who should be sacrificed. Dudley and Stephens raised the idea – arguing that Parker, who was in a coma by this point, was dying anyway while they had families back home – but Brooks refused. One

ALAMY X1, GETTY X1, MOVIE STILLS X1



DUDLEY'S DISAPPOINTMENT

When he was told his death sentence had been changed to six months imprisonment, **Tom Dudley was disappointed** that he had to go to prison at all. He never accepted the judgement of his trial.

The remains of Richard Parker, who "died at sea", are buried in Southampton

morning in late July, three weeks after *Mignonette* was lost, Dudley and Stephens agreed it was better to kill Parker so they could drink his blood while it was still fresh. A reluctant Brooks was told to look the other way while Stephens held Parker's legs and Dudley said a quick prayer before stabbing the young boy in his jugular vein with a penknife.

All three, even Brooks, then fed on Parker's body. Dudley would declare that, "I shall never forget the sight of my two unfortunate companions over that ghastly meal, we was all like mad wolves." It was just a few days later, on 29 July, that they were rescued while, as Dudley matter-of-factly describes it, "we was having our breakfast".

TRIALS AND TRIBULATIONS

The three survivors were taken back to England, where Dudley and Stephens were arrested. Brooks was let off as he had no part in the killing. There was no questioning the charge – it was undeniably murder – but Dudley and Stephens believed they were safe as they acted within the existing custom, despite the fact they had not drawn lots. As their well-publicised trial began in November, there were many people who agreed with them too, including Parker's brother, who appeared in court and shook the hands of the accused. Yet others wanted to outlaw the custom of cannibalism.

Dudley and Stephens' fate was eventually decided at a hearing, overseen by the respected Lord Coleridge. They were found guilty and sentenced to death (although this was commuted to just six months in prison). The case was a turning point for murder cases. It established a precedent in English law – still taught in law schools today – that 'necessity' does not justify the taking of human life. No matter how desperate the situation, life must be protected. As Coleridge concluded: "The absolute divorce of law from morality would be of fatal consequence".

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

This is a complex moral and legal issue – do you think the actions of Dudley and Stephens can be justified?

email: **editor@historyrevealed.com**

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HISTORY REVEALED



THERE IN SPIRIT

The Tower is allegedly home to **several ghosts**, including Henry VI, Arabella Stuart – James I and VI's cousin – and even a **grizzly bear** from the menagerie.

TOWER OF STRENGTH

The iconic stronghold has seen many dark episodes of English and British history. From the incarceration of monarchs, to the cruel torture of prisoners, and from the tragic mystery of the Princes in the Tower, to the execution of traitors...

TOWER OF LONDON

TERROR IN THE TOWER

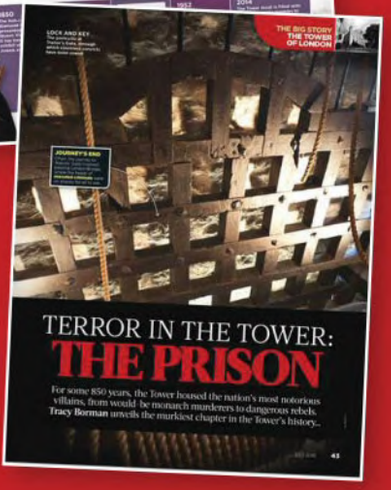
WHAT'S THE STORY?

The Tower of London is one of the most iconic buildings in the world – and rightly so. Exploring its near-1,000-year history reveals the story not just of a building, but of a nation.

Renowned as a fortress and place of execution, the Tower's history is much richer and more complex than that. It has been home not just to prisoners and weapons, but to royal beasts, public records and the nation's coinage.

When work began on the Tower, the capital was little more than a small town, with some 10,000 inhabitants. Nearly a millennium later, the Tower stands in the heart of a city of over 8 million. **Tracy Borman** explains how, in that time, it has become a symbol of power, military might, pomp and ceremony.





TRACY BORMAN

A Chief Curator for Historic Royal Palaces, Tracy is also an acclaimed writer and historian, having penned *Elizabeth's Women: The Hidden Story of the Virgin Queen* (2009) and *Thomas Cromwell: The Untold Story of Henry VIII's Most Faithful Servant* (2014) as well as her most recent tome, *The Story of The Tower of London* (2015).

NOW READ ON...

NEED TO KNOW

1 The Tale of the Tower p30
2 Today's Stronghold p32
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TIMELINE

The highlights of the Tower's story p40

TERROR IN THE TOWER

The fortress's darkest chapter p43

GET HOOKED

There's more to see, read and do p49

ALAMY X2, BRIDGEMAN IMAGES X1, ISTOCK X1, GETTY X2, TOPFOTO X1

1

THE TALE OF THE TOWER

From the Normans to the Nazis – the Tower of London stretches back nearly 1,000 years

Though the Tower of London was founded by William the Conqueror after his famous victory at Hastings in 1066, the castle's story begins many years before that. The earliest known building on the site of the Tower dates from Roman times. In the late-second century AD, the Romans completed a huge defensive wall along the entire landward side of the city. London Wall, as it became known, was over 2 miles long, 6 metres high and almost 2.5 metres thick, and would eventually form the Tower's eastern rampart.

One of William the Conqueror's first acts as King was to send a contingent of men ahead "to build a fortress in the city," and prepare for his arrival. A wooden castle was erected at first but, nine years later, William commissioned an imposing new tower. In around 1075–79, work began on the "great tower" (later called the White Tower), which formed the heart of what, from the 12th century, was known as the Tower of London.

The next major construction took place over a century later, under the auspices of William Longchamp, Constable of the Tower and Chancellor to King Richard 'the Lionheart' (reigned 1189–99). Longchamp almost doubled the size of the fortress and "caused the Tower of London to be surrounded by a moat of great depth," which, apparently, failed to flood.

However, it was Henry III (r1216–72) who, after William the Conqueror, did most to shape the Tower as we know it today. His passion for art and architecture found full expression in the massive programme of building that he began at the Tower during the 1220s. As well as strengthening the castle, Henry made it into a more sumptuous royal residence.

27.5
The height, in metres, of the White Tower, which is made of Caen stone imported from France

Three new towers – the Salt, Lanthorn and Wakefield – were rapidly completed and formed part of the southern, riverside curtain wall. To the north and east of the Tower, meanwhile, a new curtain wall was built. It was crowned by a range of new towers: (from west to east) the Devereux, Flint, Bowyer, Brick, Martin, Constable and Broad Arrow. At the same time, an expert Flemish

"BY THE STUART PERIOD, THE TOWER WAS IN A DILAPIDATED STATE"



ICONIC SIGHT
Today, the Tower of London is one of the most recognisable structures in the world

ALAMY X1, GETTY X3, HISTORIC ROYAL PALACES X1

ditch-digger was employed to improve the moat and, this time, it successfully flooded.

This ambitious building project transformed the Tower into an extensive, impregnable fortress, surrounded by water, with a moat on three sides and the River Thames on the fourth. Henry made more aesthetic alterations, too. These included an order "to have the Great Tower whitened both inside and out," so it could be seen for miles around, bright and glimmering – thus inspiring the name by which it would become known.

Henry III's warlike successor, Edward I (r1272-1307), resolved to strengthen this already mighty fortress. This included forging a new riverside gate, St Thomas's Tower. Later known as Traitors' Gate, this served as the entrance for prisoners brought to the Tower by river.

Edward also reorganised the landward entrance to the Tower, building a series of imposing towers and gateways. He added the gigantic Beauchamp Tower in 1281, and, five years later, he turned his attention to the Chapel of St Peter ad Vincula, which was rebuilt.

It was not until the Tudor period that the next significant developments took place. In 1532, a huge new storehouse was created for the royal wardrobe. Shortly afterwards, Henry VIII set about refurbishing the Tower's royal apartments for the coronation of his new Queen, Anne Boleyn. At the same time, onion domes were added to the White Tower, creating the iconic silhouette that is still recognised the world over.

FAULTY TOWER

By the advent of the Stuart period, much of the Tower was quite seriously dilapidated. A 1666 survey prompted emergency works on the defences. But it was not until the appointment of the Duke of Wellington, hero of Waterloo, as Constable of the Tower in 1826, that serious attention was paid to its role as a fortress. Appalled by the lack of accommodation for the soldiers posted to the Tower, the Duke commissioned the massive Waterloo Barracks, as they became known, which could accommodate 1,000 men.

The keep also underwent a series of stylish 'improvements' during the Victorian period. Inspired by the revival of Gothic architecture, various buildings within the fortress were restored to their medieval glory. But in so doing, the architects ruthlessly destroyed a number of important buildings, including a 13th-century curtain wall and remnants of a medieval palace.

The Tower also suffered badly from the aerial bombardments of World War II. On 23 September 1940, shortly after the Blitz had begun, a number of high-explosive bombs were dropped on the fortress, causing widespread damage, and only narrowly missing the White Tower itself.

Although no longer subject to bombardment from invaders, the Tower is nevertheless prey to the steady encroachment of the city's new high-rise buildings. Yet, still it stands, a bastion of the past, instantly recognisable across the globe.



JAIL BIRD
The Tower's Ravenmaster Chris Skaife poses with five-year-old raven, Rocky

WINGED GUARDIANS
RAVENS

The resident ravens are among the most popular sights at the Tower. Quite when they first appeared is uncertain, but legend has it the kingdom and the Tower will fall unless at least six ravens are kept there.

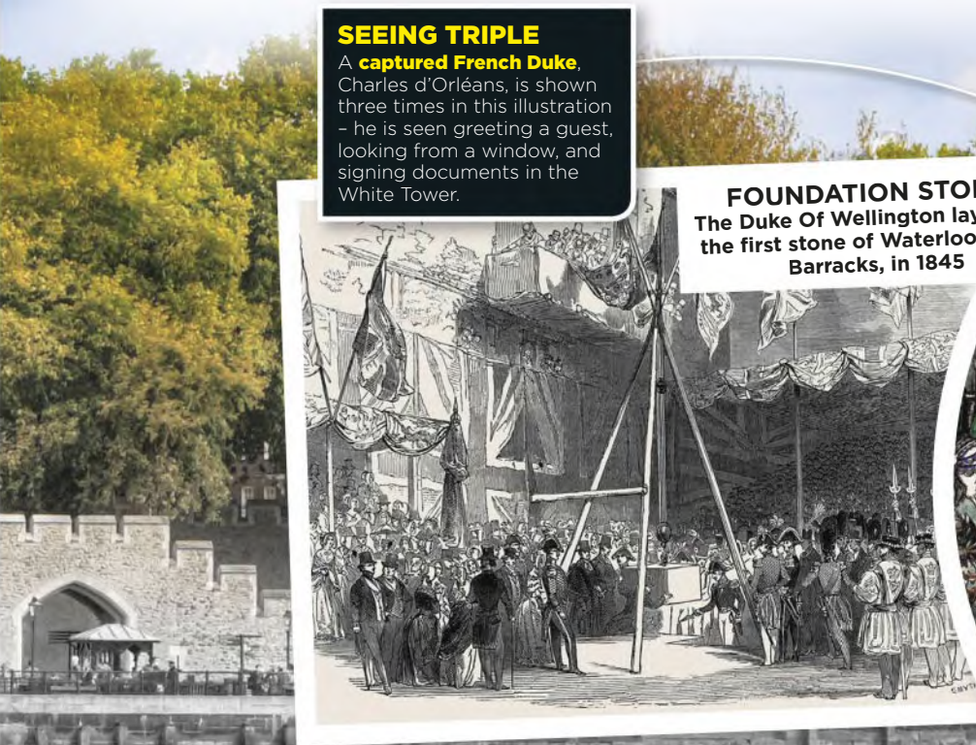
Today, there are seven feathered guardians (one spare), who are very well cared for by the Ravenmaster. Their diet consists of 170g of raw meat a day, as well as bird biscuits soaked with blood. They also enjoy an egg once a week, the occasional rat, rabbit and scraps of fried bread.

But the ravens are expected to earn their living with good behaviour. When one, George, developed a taste for TV aerials, he was dismissed from duty.

In order to keep the birds at the Tower, they each have one wing clipped – although that has failed to prevent some escapees in recent years. One raven, aptly named Grog, famously turned up outside an East End pub.

KING'S CROW
According to tradition, it was **Charles II** who first decreed that the Tower's **ravens should be protected**.

SEEING TRIPLE
A **captured French Duke**, Charles d'Orléans, is shown three times in this illustration – he is seen greeting a guest, looking from a window, and signing documents in the White Tower.



FOUNDATION STONE
The Duke Of Wellington lays the first stone of Waterloo Barracks, in 1845



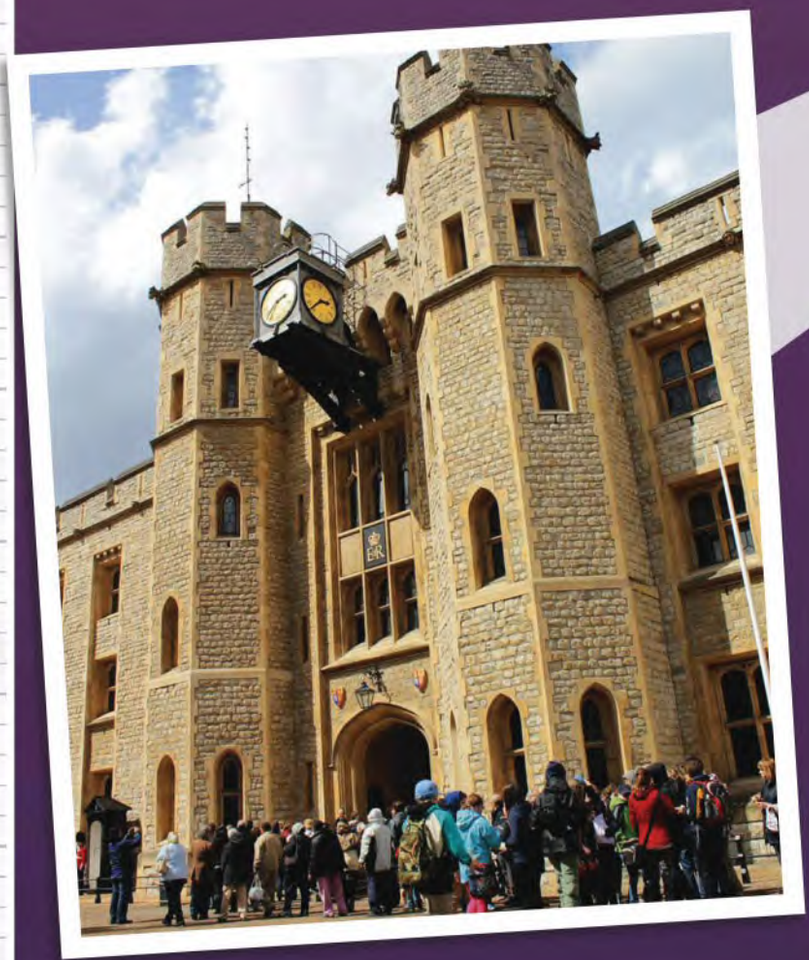
FIRST LOOK
The earliest-known image of the Tower of London, from the 15th century

2

TODAY'S STRONGHOLD

A close look at the Tower reveals an ever-evolving structure...

Every year, the Tower of London attracts millions of tourists, keen to walk around its ancient walls and breath in the history of the place. And it's small wonder. There are few places on Earth inhabited and developed by so many extraordinary people, from kings and queens to traitors and murderers.



WATERLOO BARRACKS AND JEWEL HOUSE

Built by the Duke of Wellington in the mid-19th century, this old barrack block could once house 1,000 men. In 1967, it acquired an entirely new role, however, when it became the host to the Crown Jewels. They remain there to this day.

DEVEREUX TOWER

Henry III's ambitious building programme of the early 13th century involved creating several towers to mark out a vast new curtain wall, including this one. It takes its name from its most famous inmate – Robert Devereux, Earl of Essex, imprisoned there after his rebellion in Elizabeth I's reign.

BEAUCHAMP TOWER

Built in 1281, this gigantic tower became a notorious place of imprisonment. It was very busy during Elizabeth I's reign, when various Catholic plotters were kept here. Elaborate graffiti of those who were incarcerated there can still be seen.

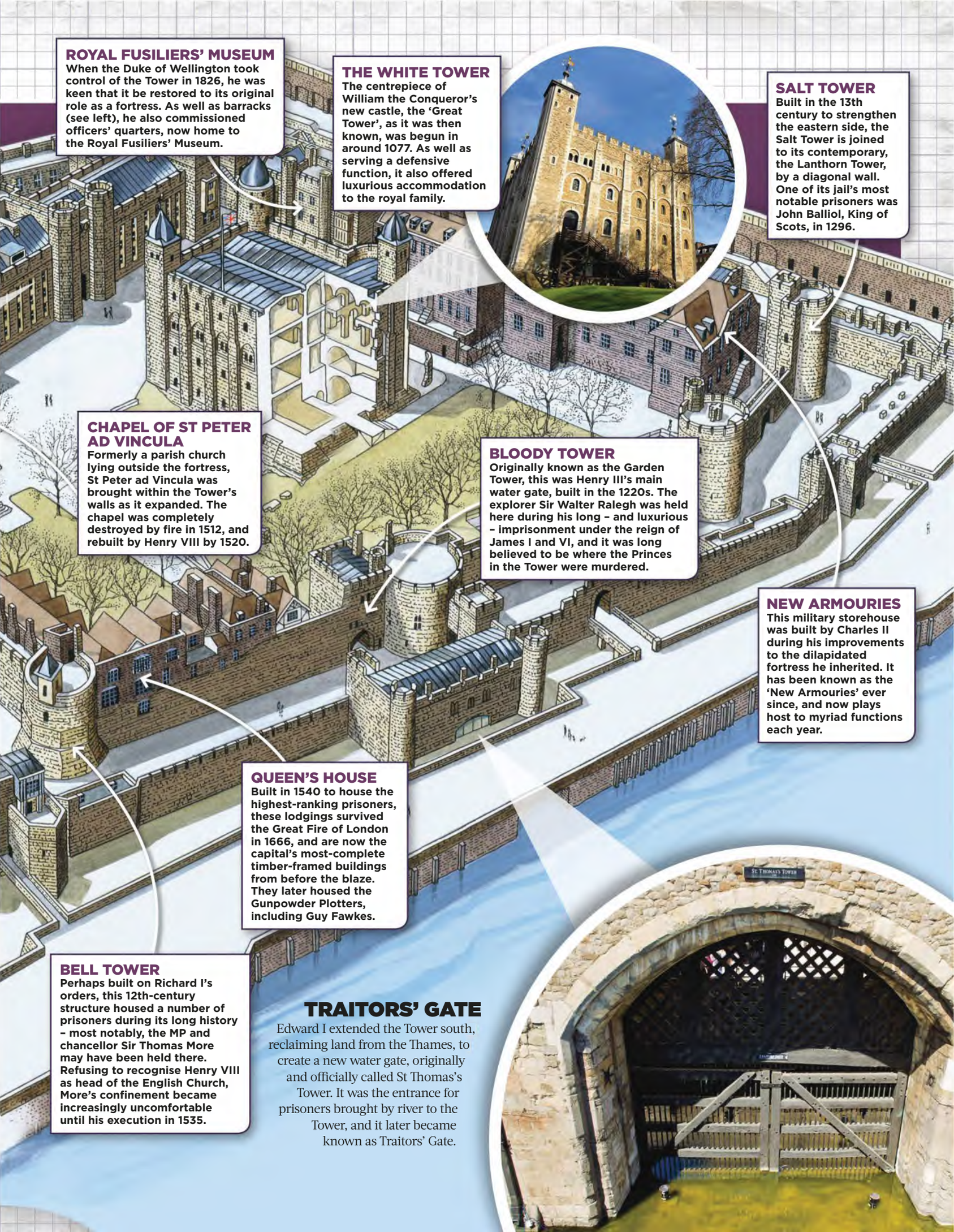


St Michael weighs souls in this part of the Byward Tower mural

BYWARD TOWER

Built by the warrior king Edward I in the late-13th century, the Byward Tower was decorated in the 1390s with an extraordinary wall painting, which survives to this day.

ILLUSTRATION: DK IMAGES; ALAMY X3; HISTORIC ROYAL PALACES X1



ROYAL FUSILIERS' MUSEUM

When the Duke of Wellington took control of the Tower in 1826, he was keen that it be restored to its original role as a fortress. As well as barracks (see left), he also commissioned officers' quarters, now home to the Royal Fusiliers' Museum.

THE WHITE TOWER

The centrepiece of William the Conqueror's new castle, the 'Great Tower', as it was then known, was begun in around 1077. As well as serving a defensive function, it also offered luxurious accommodation to the royal family.

SALT TOWER

Built in the 13th century to strengthen the eastern side, the Salt Tower is joined to its contemporary, the Lanthorn Tower, by a diagonal wall. One of its jail's most notable prisoners was John Balliol, King of Scots, in 1296.

CHAPEL OF ST PETER AD VINCULA

Formerly a parish church lying outside the fortress, St Peter ad Vincula was brought within the Tower's walls as it expanded. The chapel was completely destroyed by fire in 1512, and rebuilt by Henry VIII by 1520.

BLOODY TOWER

Originally known as the Garden Tower, this was Henry III's main water gate, built in the 1220s. The explorer Sir Walter Ralegh was held here during his long – and luxurious – imprisonment under the reign of James I and VI, and it was long believed to be where the Princes in the Tower were murdered.

NEW ARMOURIES

This military storehouse was built by Charles II during his improvements to the dilapidated fortress he inherited. It has been known as the 'New Armouries' ever since, and now plays host to myriad functions each year.

QUEEN'S HOUSE

Built in 1540 to house the highest-ranking prisoners, these lodgings survived the Great Fire of London in 1666, and are now the capital's most-complete timber-framed buildings from before the blaze. They later housed the Gunpowder Plotters, including Guy Fawkes.

BELL TOWER

Perhaps built on Richard I's orders, this 12th-century structure housed a number of prisoners during its long history – most notably, the MP and chancellor Sir Thomas More may have been held there. Refusing to recognise Henry VIII as head of the English Church, More's confinement became increasingly uncomfortable until his execution in 1535.

TRAITORS' GATE

Edward I extended the Tower south, reclaiming land from the Thames, to create a new water gate, originally and officially called St Thomas's Tower. It was the entrance for prisoners brought by river to the Tower, and it later became known as Traitors' Gate.

3

FIT FOR A KING

One of the Tower's primary roles was that of royal residence

Although William the Conqueror built the Tower to subdue the 'evil' inhabitants of the city, it was more than just a fortress. The huge keep, known as the White Tower, contained a luxury suite on the first floor for the royal family. The enormous rooms within were equipped with fireplaces and latrines, and included a large hall and grand chapel.

The Tower continued to fulfil the dual function of royal residence and fortress for the next 500 years, although its popularity waxed and waned with each ruling monarch. The one who favoured it most was King John – he stayed there more than almost any other monarch, before or since. Perhaps it was the only place he felt safe from his rebellious barons who, in 1215, forced him to sign Magna Carta.

5,000
The amount, in pounds, Henry III spent on the Tower in three years – over £2.5 million in today's money

Although he spent the most time there, John made very few changes to the royal apartments.

By contrast, his successor, Henry III, transformed the Tower into a sumptuous residence. Luxurious private quarters were commissioned for himself and his young wife, Eleanor of Provence. He and his Queen set out from the Tower to Westminster for her coronation in 1236, thus establishing a tradition that all monarchs would spend the night before their coronation in the fortress.

Near the end of the 13th century, Edward I ordered a suite of royal apartments to be built above his new riverside gate, St Thomas's Tower (now Traitors' Gate). These well-appointed chambers included a tiny oratory, chambers, fireplaces and latrines, and were decorated with statues and large, stained-glass windows, from which the King could watch his prisoners arriving to meet their fate.



TREND SETTER
Henry III, who set off to his wife's coronation from the Tower, started something of a tradition



UP ON THE ROOF
Plans of the Flamsteed Turret in the White Tower

MOVING HOME

Thereafter, the Tower gradually fell out of favour as a royal residence. Henry VII was the

"FROM THE STAINED-GLASS WINDOWS, EDWARD I COULD WATCH HIS PRISONERS ARRIVE"

FIGHT THE POWER

THE PEASANTS' REVOLT

When he became King in 1377, Richard II inherited an impoverished and unstable country. In November 1380, Parliament granted a new 'poll' tax, requiring everyone over the age of 14-15, rich or poor, to pay one shilling to the crown. This constituted a month's wages for an agricultural labourer. When the tax collectors returned with only two thirds of the money, the council sent them back again in the spring of 1381. This prompted widespread resistance under the leadership of the charismatic Walter 'Wat' Tyler. He quickly amassed a huge body of supporters and, in June 1381, marched on London with 50,000-60,000 men.

Upon reaching the capital, the rebels headed straight for the Tower and surrounded it. The King agreed to meet them, but as soon as the gates were opened to let him out, 400 rebels rushed in. Ransacking their way to the innermost parts of the fortress, they reached the second floor of the White Tower and burst into St John's Chapel, where they found the despised Archbishop of Canterbury, Simon Sudbury, leading prayers. Without hesitation, they dragged him and his companions to Tower Hill and butchered them. Reportedly, it took eight blows of the amateur executioner's axe to sever the Archbishop's head, which was then set upon a pole on London Bridge.

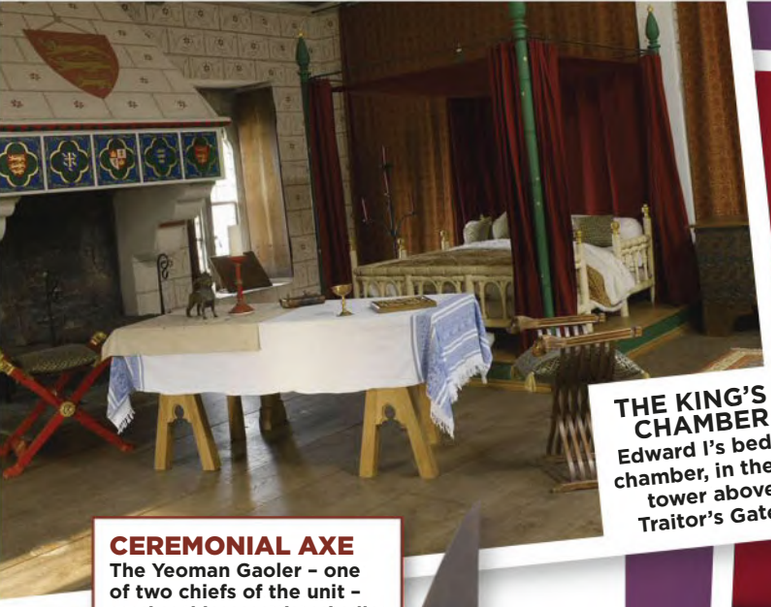
Meanwhile, inside the Tower the mob had ransacked the King's bedchamber and molested his mother and her ladies. The contemporary French chronicler Jean Froissart described how the rebels "arrogantly lay and sat and joked on the King's bed, whilst several asked the King's mother... to kiss them."

Steeled into more decisive action, her son rode out to meet the rebels again and faced down their leader, Wat Tyler, who was butchered by the King's men. Without their leader's charismatic presence, the rebels lost the will to fight on and returned, meekly, to their homes.



IN FOR THE KILL
Chronicler Froissart's depiction of the Archbishop of Canterbury's murder

ALAMY X3, HISTORIC ROYAL PALACES X3



THE KING'S CHAMBER
Edward I's bed chamber, in the tower above Traitor's Gate



SAFE HANDS
The Ceremony of the Keys – the traditional locking up of the Tower – has taken place every night for nearly 700 years
BELOW: **A Yeoman Warder, dressed in his ceremonial red-and-gold state uniform**

CEREMONIAL AXE
The Yeoman Gaoler – one of two chiefs of the unit – carries this axe. Historically, this Warder would have been in charge of all prisoners, accompanying them to and from trial.

last monarch to use the Tower as a home. When his eldest son and heir Arthur married Catherine of Aragon, daughter of Ferdinand and Isabella of Spain, the famously parsimonious King splashed out on lavish new royal apartments in the Lanthorn and Cradle Towers.

After refurbishing the Tower for his coronation and that of his second wife, Anne Boleyn, Henry VIII virtually abandoned it as a residence and made it a place synonymous with terror, torture and death. As the contemporary chronicler Ralph Holinshed observed, the fortress became more "an armourie and house of munition, and thereunto a place for the safekeeping of offenders than a palace roiall for a king or queen to sojourne in".



ONE-TIME THING
The Peasants' Revolt of 1381 is the **only occasion** on which the Tower of London has been **successfully invaded**.

HEADGEAR
The Yeomen's flat-brimmed black velvet Tudor-style hats are decorated with red, white and blue bows.

DIEU ET MON DROIT
The French motto of the monarchy, meaning 'God and my right' in English, is emblazoned on the scarlet doublet.

SHOES
Much like their hats, the guards' shoes are adorned with rosettes, in the colours of the Union flag.

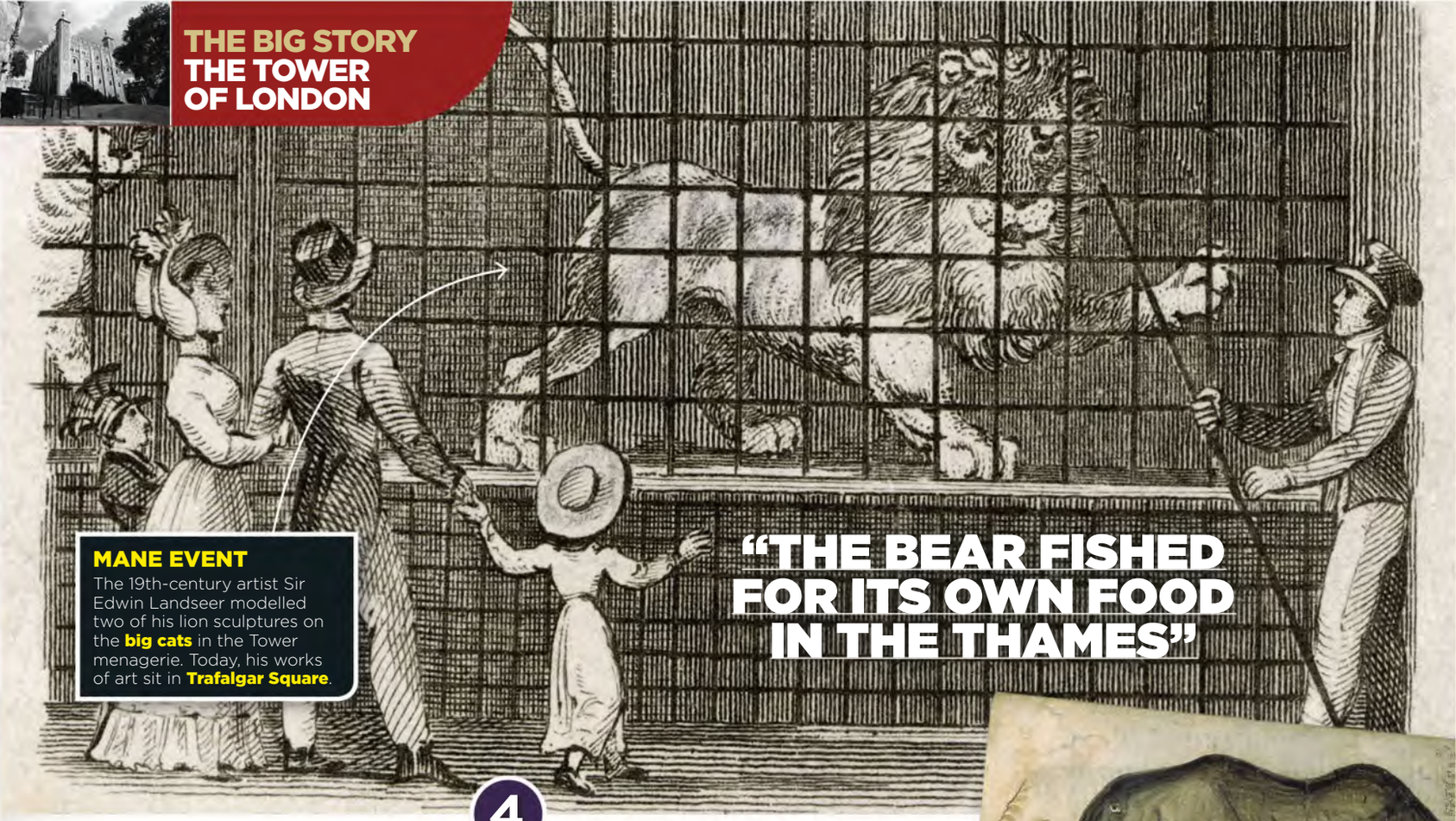
FOOT PATROL
ROYAL GUARDS

It may have been during the reign of the first Tudor King, Henry VII, that the Yeomen of the Guard were formed. The official royal bodyguard, of which the Yeoman Warders were a detachment, were certainly well established by the time of his death in 1509. Their distinctive scarlet Tudor livery has been carried down through the centuries. It is thought that their nickname – 'Beefeaters' – derives from the fact that they were permitted to eat as much beef as they wanted from the King's table.

It may have been a growing awareness of her unpopularity that prompted Henry's granddaughter, 'Bloody' Mary, to issue instructions to the Constable of the Tower in 1555, that there should be no fewer than 21 "discreet, trusty and personable yeomen of middle age," none "above 50 or below 30".

It was Edward III who established the famous Ceremony of the Keys around 1340, which has been performed by the Yeoman Warders every night since.

Today's Yeoman Warders are required to have served in the armed forces with an honourable record for at least 22 years before they can take up residence in the Tower. As well as their official duties, such as the Ceremony of the Keys, they also ensure the safety of visitors to the Tower and conduct tours for thousands of tourists every day.



MANE EVENT
The 19th-century artist Sir Edwin Landseer modelled two of his lion sculptures on the **big cats** in the Tower menagerie. Today, his works of art sit in **Trafalgar Square**.

"THE BEAR FISHED FOR ITS OWN FOOD IN THE THAMES"

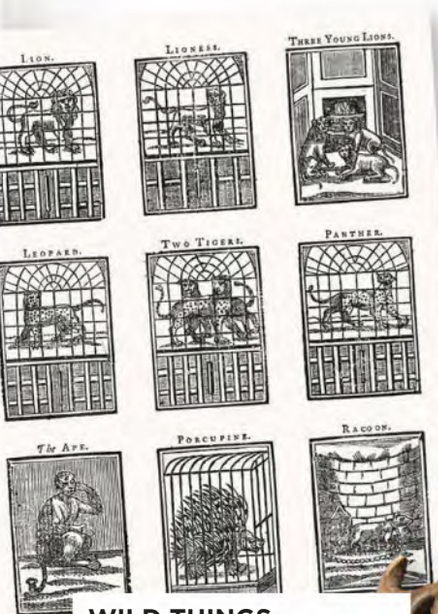
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ANIMAL KINGDOM

Not all of those kept behind bars were criminals – some were captives of a more exotic kind...



LIONS AND TIGERS AND BEARS, OH MY!
ABOVE LEFT: **A family walks around the lion's enclosure, c1830. These kings (and queens) of the jungle were among the most popular with visitors** ABOVE RIGHT: **Henry III's elephant only survived for two years after it entered the Tower**





WILD THINGS
LEFT: **Illustrations from a 1741 children's guide to the Tower** RIGHT: **One of two lion skulls found in the moat. The oldest was dated to 1280-1385, the other to 1420-1480**

One of the more unusual roles that the Tower took on was that of royal zoo. King John first established a menagerie there in the early 13th century. Upon losing Normandy in 1204, he had been given the bizarre consolation prize of three ship-loads of wild beasts. Having nowhere else suitable to keep them, he settled for the Tower.

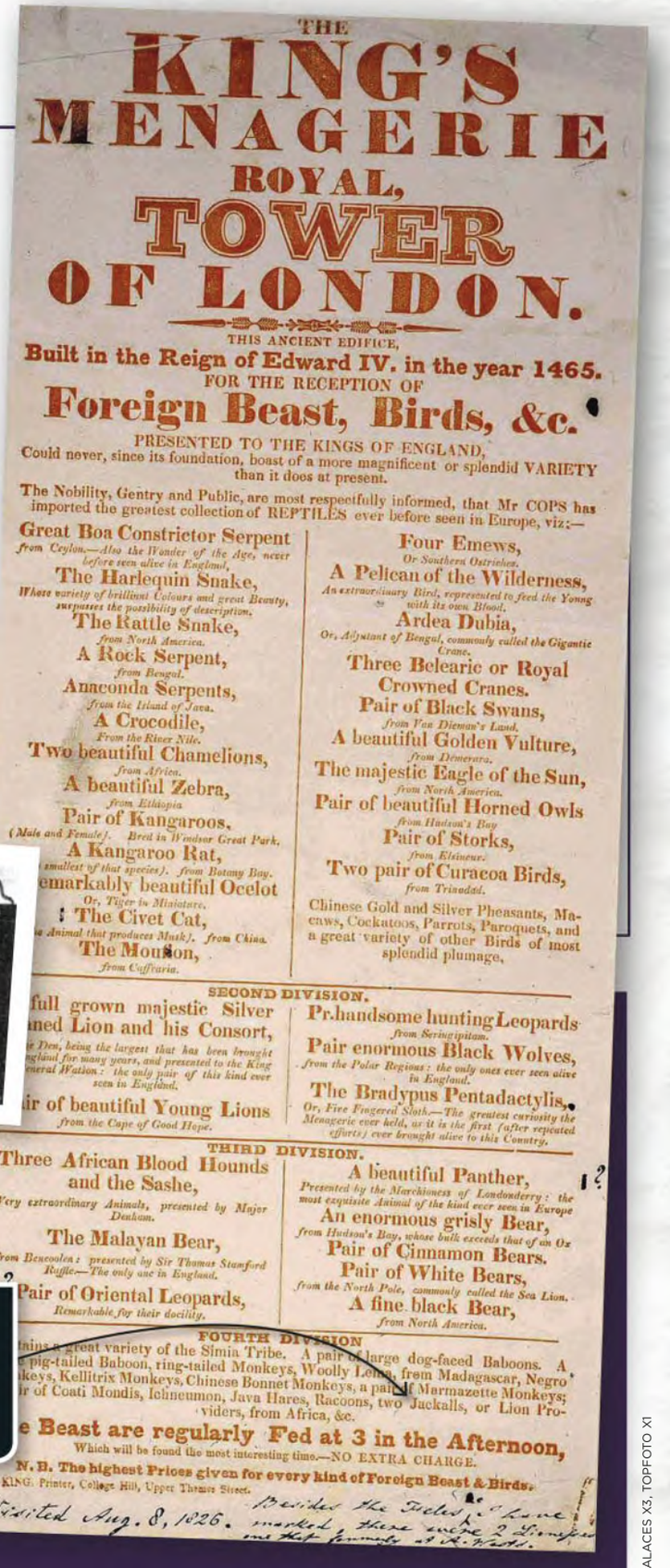
John's son, Henry III, embraced this aspect of the Tower's role with enthusiasm, and it was during his reign that the royal menagerie was fully established. Most exotic of all Henry III's animals was the 'pale bear' (probably a polar bear) – a gift from the King of Norway in 1252. It instantly captivated the citizens of London, who had never seen anything like it before. They were obliged to contribute towards the cost of buying a muzzle, chain and rope, so the bear could fish for its own food in the Thames. The river was a good deal cleaner than it is today and filled with a variety of fish, including "fat and sweet salmons". The polar bear must have been delighted. Its keeper was a good deal less so, for there is evidence to suggest that he was expected to accompany his charge on its fishing expeditions.

1
The amount, in gallons, of wine that King James I and VI's elephant was given to drink every day

An even stranger sight confronted the people of London in 1255, when a new and altogether larger gift arrived from the French King, Louis IX. The chronicler Matthew Paris could barely find the words to describe the strange beast that "eats and drinks with a trunk." England had welcomed its first elephant.

Perhaps inevitably, given the lack of knowledge about their diet and care, the lives of the Tower beasts were often short. But the menagerie continued to thrive. Edward I created a permanent new home for it at the western entrance to the Tower, in what became known as the Lion Tower. The royal beasts would occupy it for almost six centuries.

FOREIGN BEASTS
A poster from the 1820s advertises the Tower's eclectic menagerie


THE
KING'S
MENAGERIE
ROYAL,
TOWER
OF LONDON.
THIS ANCIENT EDIFICE,
Built in the Reign of Edward IV. in the year 1465.
FOR THE RECEPTION OF
Foreign Beast, Birds, &c.
PRESENTED TO THE KINGS OF ENGLAND,
Could never, since its foundation, boast of a more magnificent or splendid VARIETY than it does at present.
The Nobility, Gentry and Public, are most respectfully informed, that Mr COPS has imported the greatest collection of REPTILES ever before seen in Europe, viz:—
Great Boa Constrictor Serpent
from Ceylon.—Also the Wonder of the Age, never before seen alive in England,
The Harlequin Snake,
Whose variety of brilliant Colours and great Beauty, surpasses the possibility of description.
The Rattle Snake,
from North America.
A Rock Serpent,
from Bengal.
Anaconda Serpents,
from the Island of Java.
A Crocodile,
From the River Nile.
Two beautiful Chamelions,
from Africa.
A beautiful Zebra,
from Ethiopia
Pair of Kangaroos,
(Male and Female). Bred in Windsor Great Park.
A Kangaroo Rat,
(smallest of that species). from Botany Bay.
emarkably beautiful Ocelot
Or, Tiger in Miniature.
The Civet Cat,
e Animal that produces Musk). from China.
The Mouflon,
from Cuffraria.
Four Emews,
Or Southern Ostriches.
A Pelican of the Wilderness,
An extraordinary Bird, represented to feed the Young with its own Blood.
Ardea Dubia,
Or, Adjutant of Bengal, commonly called the Gigantic Crane.
Three Belearic or Royal Crowned Cranes.
Pair of Black Swans,
from Van Dieman's Land.
A beautiful Golden Vulture,
from Demerara.
The majestic Eagle of the Sun,
from North America.
Pair of beautiful Horned Owls
from Hudson's Bay
Pair of Storks,
from Elsineur.
Two pair of Curacoa Birds,
from Trinadad.
Chinese Gold and Silver Pheasants, Macaws, Cockatoos, Parrots, Paroquets, and a great variety of other Birds of most splendid plumage.
SECOND DIVISION.
full grown majestic Silver
ned Lion and his Consort,
e Den, being the largest that has been brought England for many years, and presented to the King neral Nation: the only pair of this kind ever seen in England.
ir of beautiful Young Lions
from the Cape of Good Hope.
Pr.handsome hunting Leopards
from Seringapitam.
Pair enormous Black Wolves,
from the Polar Regions: the only ones ever seen alive in England.
The Bradypus Pentadactylis,
Or, Five Fingered Sloth.—The greatest curiosity the Menagerie ever held, as it is the first (after repeated efforts) ever brought alive to this Country.
THIRD DIVISION.
Three African Blood Hounds and the Sashe,
Very extraordinary Animals, presented by Major Denham.
The Malayan Bear,
from Bencoolen: presented by Sir Thomas Stamford Raffle.—The only one in England.
Pair of Oriental Leopards,
Remarkable for their docility.
A beautiful Panther,
Presented by the Marchioness of Londonderry: the most exquisite Animal of the kind ever seen in Europe
An enormous grisly Bear,
from Hudson's Bay, whose bulk exceeds that of an Ox
Pair of Cinnamon Bears.
Pair of White Bears,
from the North Pole, commonly called the Sea Lion.
A fine black Bear,
from North America.
FOURTH DIVISION
ains a great variety of the Simia Tribe. A pair of large dog-faced Baboons. A pig-tailed Baboon, ring-tailed Monkeys, Woolly Lemur, from Madagascar, Negro keys, Kellitrix Monkeys, Chinese Bonnet Monkeys, a pair of Marmazette Monkeys; ir of Coati Mondis, Ichneumon, Java Hares, Racoons, two Jackalls, or Lion Pro- viders, from Africa, &c.
e Beast are regularly Fed at 3 in the Afternoon,
Which will be found the most interesting time.—NO EXTRA CHARGE.
N. B. The highest Prices given for every kind of Foreign Beast & Birds.
J. KING, Printer, College Hill, Upper Thames Street.
Visited Aug. 8, 1826. Besides the Fields [illegible] marked, there were 2 Lions and that Animals at the West.

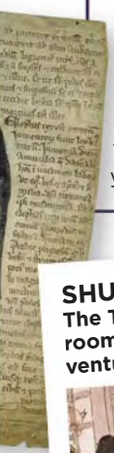
ROLL UP, ROLL UP!
TOURIST SEASON

Not surprisingly, the arrival of exotic beasts to the Tower created something of a stir in the capital. People of all classes flocked to see the fearsome inmates. In the crowd was the diarist Samuel Pepys, who recorded many visits to the menagerie. It was also a magnet for celebrated poets and painters, such as William Blake and George Stubbs, who drew inspiration for their work. It is possible that William Shakespeare himself paid a visit. In his tragedy *Hamlet*, written c1599-1601, there is mention of a porcupine, and there was just such a creature held in the Tower in 1597.

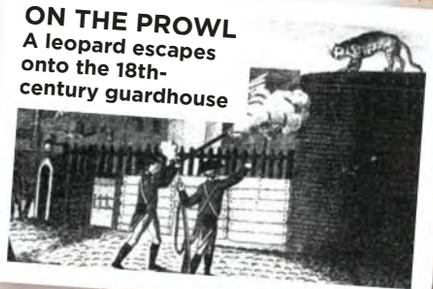
Thanks to the menagerie, by the 18th century the Tower had begun to emerge as the country's leading tourist attraction.

An illustrated children's guide to the zoo was published in 1741, showing pictures of all the animals it housed. The advent of the energetic zoologist, Alfred Cops, as Chief Keeper in 1822, further boosted its popularity. Within six years of his appointment, a staggering 300 specimens from 60 different species were housed in the menagerie, including kangaroos from Australia.

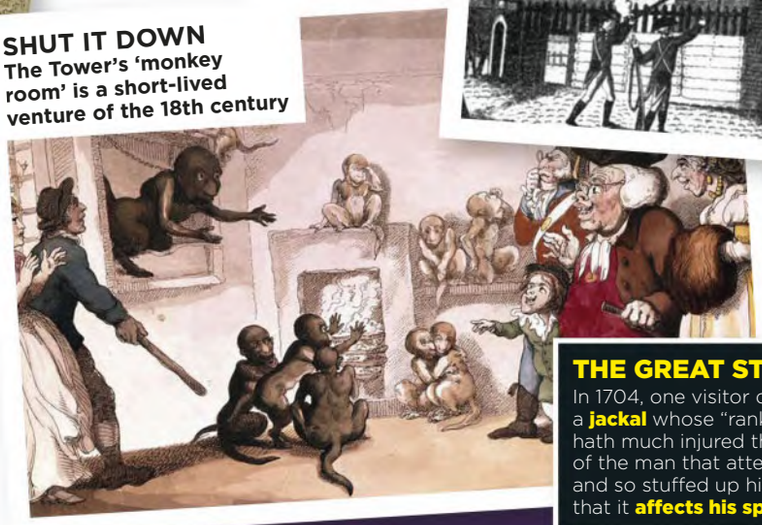
Not everyone was so enthusiastic. The appointment of the Duke of Wellington as Constable of the Tower in 1826 sounded the death knell for the menagerie. The hero of Waterloo disapproved of the Tower's having become a tourist attraction and resolved to return it to a fortress. He arranged the transfer of 150 of the menagerie's inhabitants to the Zoological Gardens in Regent's Park. Cops reduced the entry fee to compensate visitors, but he was fighting a losing battle. The remaining animals were sold to zoological societies and private collectors, and the Lion Tower was later demolished.



ON THE PROWL
A leopard escapes onto the 18th-century guardhouse



SHUT IT DOWN
The Tower's 'monkey room' is a short-lived venture of the 18th century



THE GREAT STINK
In 1704, one visitor described a **jackal** whose "rank smell... hath much injured the Health of the man that attends them, and so stuffed up his Head that it **affects his speech**."

DISASTER STRIKES
KILLER INSTINCTS

With an almost total absence of health and safety regulations, it was perhaps inevitable that the mixing of wild beasts and tourists would lead to trouble. One of the earliest known incidents was in 1609, when a bear killed a child who had been negligently left in its yard. Later that century, Mary Jenkinson, servant of the zoo keeper, went to stroke a lion's paw when "suddenly he catched her by the middle of the arm with his claws and mouth, and most miserably tore her flesh from the bone." Surgeons amputated what was left of her arm, but she did not survive.

A cartoon by caricaturist Thomas Rowlandson shows visitors mingling with apes in the "monkey room", which opened in the 1780s. But this daring experiment was brought to an abrupt end when a boy was mauled by an over-enthusiastic ape, and they were soon put back in their cages.

The massive increase in the number of animals in the early 19th century had its downside, too. The cramped conditions had fatal consequences, such as when an inquisitive secretary bird had its head bitten off, as it peered into a hyena's den.

Several other incidents – including an escaped wolf that almost devoured a child, and a monkey that bit a guard's leg – convinced William IV to close the menagerie for good in 1835.

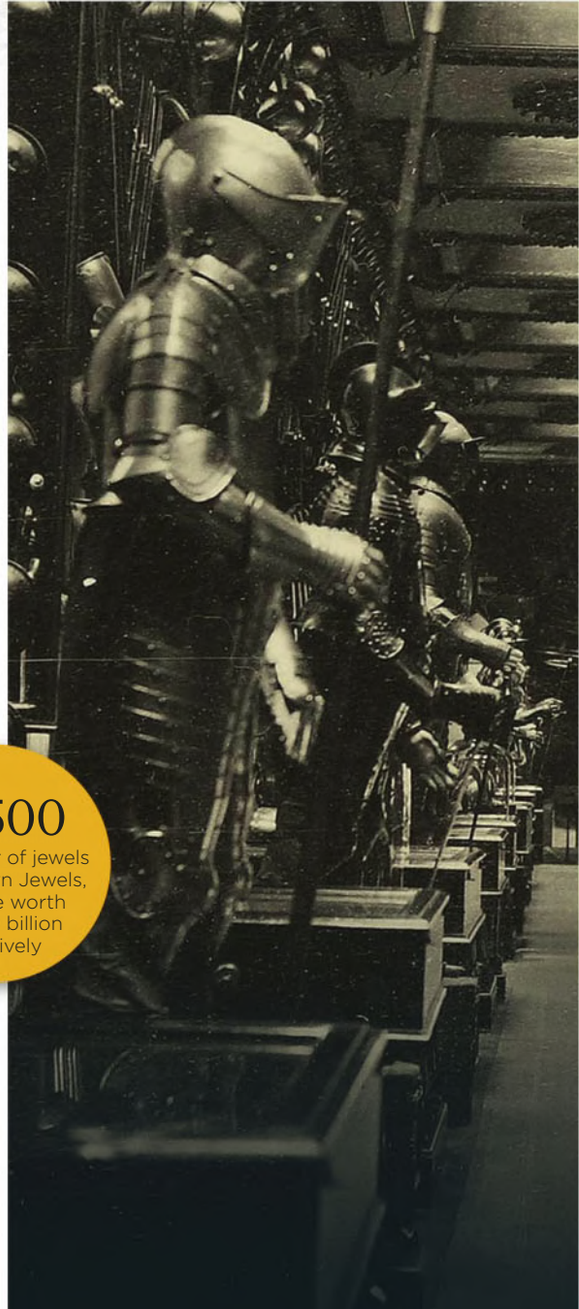
ALAMY X1, MARY EVANS X1, HISTORIC ROYAL PALACES X3, TOPFOTO X1

5

FLEXIBLE FORTRESS

The Tower has played a myriad of roles during the course of its 950-year history

The Tower may have started life as a fortress, but it would evolve over the centuries to embrace countless different functions. These reflected the changing needs of the monarchy. War-mongering kings such as William the Conqueror and Edward I focused their efforts upon strengthening this colossal fortress against invaders. To Henry III, it was a luxurious royal residence, while his later Tudor namesake transformed the Tower into a place of torture and terror. Charles II, meanwhile, viewed it as a glittering showpiece for royal pomp and ceremony. The Tower remains very much a living fortress, adapting chameleon-like to its changed circumstances while preserving centuries of tradition.



23,500
The number of jewels in the Crown Jewels, which are worth over £20 billion collectively

TREASURE CHEST
THE CROWN JEWELS

The collection of Crown Jewels was started by Henry III in the 13th century and has been housed at the Tower for safekeeping ever since the reign of his son and successor, Edward I. The Tudors built up the collection into a treasury of great value and commissioned a highly secure Jewel House, complete with barred windows and iron chests to store the most precious items.

An inventory of the collection, taken just after Elizabeth I's death, provides a glimpse into its richness. It included 15 gold collars studded with diamonds and other precious stones, a coronet and circlet set with priceless jewels, and a "pece of unicorn horn" and other exotica, which Tudor adventurers brought back from their travels.

But in 1649, almost all the jewels were destroyed by Oliver Cromwell, shortly after Charles I's execution. The crowns – the most potent symbols of royal power – were "totally broken and defaced," and the metal made into coinage at the Tower's Mint. Among the oldest items consigned to the melting pot were two Saxon crowns, reputedly worn by Alfred the Great and Queen Edith.

The only items to survive were a coronation anointing spoon, some ceremonial swords, a silver salt cellar of Elizabeth I's, and the Black Prince's ruby. The latter was set into a new crown made for Charles II upon the restoration of the monarchy in 1660. The new King also commissioned a dazzling suite of new jewels that has been used by the royals ever since.

The new Crown Jewels were housed in the ground floor of the Martin Tower, with the keeper's apartments above. Arrangements were made for a public display, and they soon became the most visited attraction within the Tower.

In 1671, 'Colonel' Thomas Blood, a mercenary and Civil War veteran, staged an audacious attempt to steal the star items of the collection. Having attacked the keeper, Blood and his associates stuffed the state crown and other items down their breeches and made a run for it, but were apprehended before they reached the gates. Curiously, though, Charles II not only pardoned Blood, but granted him lands in Ireland and a pension of £500 a year. This has prompted speculation that Blood was a secret agent to the new King.

The Crown Jewels are now safely kept under armed guard, but are still used by the Queen for important ceremonies, such as the State Opening of Parliament.



WORKING REGALIA
The Imperial State Crown is brought to the opening of Parliament in 2013. At the time, an 'in use' sign would have sat in the crown's place at the Tower

WEAPONS FACTORY
THE ARMOURY

During the first decade of the 15th century, the Offices of Armoury and Ordnance were established at the Tower. This reflected the fortress's emerging role as the headquarters for royal military operations.

Henry V, for example, appointed an experienced fletcher named Nicholas Mynot as Keeper of the King's Arrows in the Tower armoury. Mynot was charged with replenishing the store of arrows and longbows in the fortress in preparation for his royal master's campaign in France. The newly crafted bows and arrows from the Tower were put to good use at Agincourt in 1415, when Henry and his "happy few" defeated a French army four times their size.

Until 1661, there was no standing army, so it was crucial that weapons could be quickly and efficiently supplied to any troops raised for particular needs. Thus, the Offices of Armoury and Ordnance became the most influential institutions in the Tower. The main stores comprised armour, edged weapons, handguns,

OF WAR AND WEALTH
A historic display from c1870 at the Horse Armoury in the Tower features armour from Henry VIII's time onwards
RIGHT: **The Tower's coining presses in action, c1809**



WHEEL OF FORTUNE
Screw-operated **coining presses** were introduced to the Mint in the 17th century. Blank metal discs were placed on the die, and pressed against an upper die with a **turn of the screw**.

"IT WAS CRUCIAL THAT WEAPONS COULD BE QUICKLY AND EFFICIENTLY SUPPLIED"

ordnance (heavier weapons and cannons) and gunpowder.

By the end of the 15th century, the main "house of ordnance" stood opposite the White Tower. Additional storage space was provided at the top of the White Tower itself. In 1545, Henry VIII commissioned a vast new building on the same site – the largest of any within the Tower.

During the remainder of the Tudor period, the ordnance gradually encroached upon more of the existing areas within the fortress, including the royal lodgings and White Tower – the latter being the principal repository for the huge quantity of gunpowder that was stored in the fortress – with near-fatal results during the Great Fire of London in 1666.

As well as continuing its practical role as a base for munitions, the Tower also increasingly acted as a showcase for some of the more interesting and spectacular pieces of weaponry. Henry VIII had been particularly fond of showing off his impressive array of arms. A visitor to the Tower during the reign of Elizabeth I was amazed by the gilt suit of armour and several historic cannon that were on display.

It was not until the second half of the 17th century that four new displays of weaponry were created specifically for public view. The first, the Spanish Armoury, was a collection of fearsome-looking weapons and a few instruments of torture, allegedly taken from the Armada of 1588.

In 1692, a new building was erected to house the Tower's growing arsenal. The Grand Storehouse was the largest single ordnance store in the world. It was destroyed by a huge fire in 1841.

MONEY MAKER
THE MINT

The year 1279 saw a new institution established at the Tower. Edward I was determined to keep the production of coins under closer control, so he moved the Mint to his London fortress.

Security was paramount: the Mint workers literally held the wealth of the kingdom in their hands. The coinage also reinforced royal power, as the majority of a monarch's subjects would only gain any impression of what he or she looked like from the coins that bore their profile.

The Mint was operated from a series of makeshift wooden sheds in the Outer Ward, in an area that became known as Mint Street. As its operations expanded, so did its accommodation and, by the 16th century, the Mint had spread along three of the Tower's walls.

Those who worked at the mint endured hot, noisy and dangerous conditions. Machinery was not introduced until the 17th century so, for almost 400 years, the coins were produced by hand. Few workers emerged unscathed, and the loss of fingers or eyes was common.

Afte the restoration of the monarchy, in 1660, came the welcome introduction of machinery. With screw-operated presses, they could churn out an astonishing 25 coins a minute. Early in the reign, diarist Samuel Pepys visited the Mint and described the coins as "some of the finest pieces of work... that ever I did see in my life." Frances Stewart, one of the court beauties with whom Charles II liked to surround himself, was allegedly the model for Britannia on the reverse of the coins – an image that lasted until 2008.

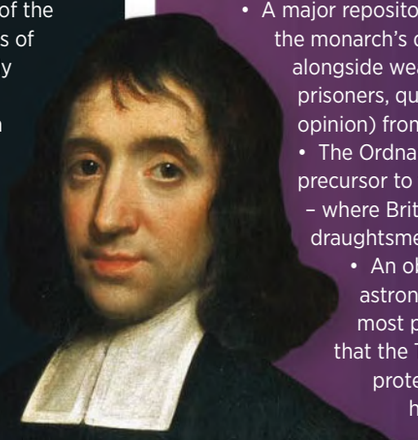
In 1696, the Mint gained its most distinguished warden: the scientist and mathematician Isaac Newton. His appointment came at a critical time. A shortage of silver – partly caused by the clipping of silver from the old hammered coins that had been minted before the advent of machinery – threatened the economy. Newton's solution was extreme: the entire currency had to be returned to the Mint and reissued with milled edges, to prevent clipping. He was rewarded for his services and remained at the Mint until his death in 1727.

But the Mint continued to outgrow the Tower and, around the turn of the 19th century, it was obliged to relocate to nearby Tower Hill.

VERY VERSATILE
THERE'S MORE

The stronghold has played plenty of other parts at various stages in its long history, including becoming:

- A major repository for official records, keeping the monarch's documents safe (though, alongside weapons, gunpowder and prisoners, quite *how* safe is a matter of opinion) from the late-13th century onwards.
- The Ordnance Drawing Room – a precursor to the Ordnance Survey institution – where British military surveyors and draughtsmen were trained, from 1716.
- An observatory for Charles II's astronomer, John Flamsteed. He was most put out when the King decreed that the Tower's ravens should be protected, as they interfered with his work in the White Tower.



STAR MAN
Astronomer John Flamsteed, who worked from the Tower in the 1670s

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TIMELINE The Tower of

A look back at the Tower's epic history reveals a centre of torture and terror



SECOND CENTURY AD

The Romans build London Wall, a huge defensive bulwark that later forms the Tower's eastern rampart.

C1075-79

Work begins on the gigantic keep or 'great tower', later called the White Tower. It forms the core of what, from the 12th century, would become known as the Tower of London.



1100

William II adds a suite of royal lodgings to the south side of the White Tower.

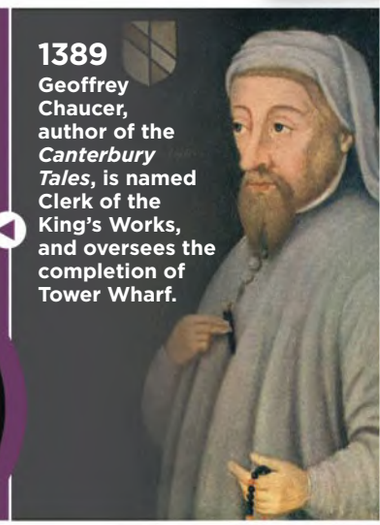
1101

Bishop Flambard of Durham – the Tower's first-known prisoner, locked up for accused extortion – stages a daring escape while his guards sleep.



1389

Geoffrey Chaucer, author of the *Canterbury Tales*, is named Clerk of the King's Works, and oversees the completion of Tower Wharf.



1483

The Princes in the Tower disappear, and are almost certainly killed. The skeletons of two young boys are discovered two centuries later.



1485

Henry VII founds the body of Yeoman Warders, or the 'Beefeaters', who still guard the stronghold today.



1536

Henry VIII's second wife, Anne Boleyn, is held at the Tower and executed on 19 May for treasonous adultery.



Anne Boleyn is beheaded on Tower Green

1554

Lady Jane Grey, the 'nine days' Queen' is executed at the Tower; the future Elizabeth I is imprisoned there shortly afterwards.



1605

Guy Fawkes and his co-conspirators are tortured at the fortress, following the discovery of their treasonous Gunpowder Plot.

1666

The Tower is almost obliterated in the Great Fire of London. Only thanks to the hasty removal of barrels of gunpowder from the White Tower's armoury is disaster avoided.



The Great Fire makes its way to the Tower, seen far right



A guard is harmed in the course of Blood's robbery

1671

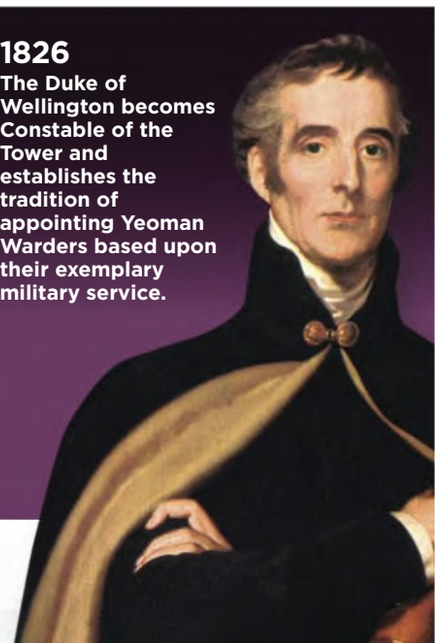
Colonel Blood tries to steal the Crown Jewels, but is arrested with his accomplices before they flee the Tower.

1716

The Ordnance Drawing Room was created at the Tower. It is the precursor to the Ordnance Survey, Britain's national mapping agency.

1826

The Duke of Wellington becomes Constable of the Tower and establishes the tradition of appointing Yeoman Warders based upon their exemplary military service.



London

as well as mystery, money and military might



1140
King Stephen becomes the first monarch to reside in the Tower, and celebrates the Whitsuntide festival there in the royal lodgings recently built by Henry I.

Stephen's reign was turbulent, so secure lodgings were a must

1162
Thomas Becket, Archbishop of Canterbury and Chief Minister of Henry II, is appointed Constable of the Tower, having overseen repair works to the fortress for seven years.

1189-91
Richard the Lionheart's Chief Minister and Constable of the Tower, William Longchamp, heads up a major programme of building at the fortress.



The Tower complex, as it would have looked c1200

1204
King John establishes the Tower's menagerie, filling it with three crate-loads of wild creatures from Normandy.

1220s
Henry III undertakes a huge building project at the Tower, creating much of the fortress that survives today. Later, Henry III will establish the tradition that every monarch should spend the night before their coronation at the Tower, which continues until the reign of Charles II.

1275-9
Edward I builds a new riverside gate, St Thomas's Tower, commonly known as Traitors' Gate. This was the entrance for prisoners brought to the Tower by river.

1279
The Mint is established at the Tower and continues to produce the nation's coinage for the next 500 years.



A penny bearing Edward I's portrait



1360
Taken prisoner in the Hundred Years War, King John II 'the Good' of France is brought to the Tower, where he lives in great splendour.

1381
Simon of Sudbury, the Archbishop of Canterbury, is dragged out of the Tower and murdered during the Peasant's Revolt.



1850
The Koh-i-Noor diamond is presented to Queen Victoria. It has been the star exhibit of the Crown Jewels ever since.

1858
The Tower Record Office is closed and its contents are transferred to a new central repository on Chancery Lane.



1940
The Tower suffers extensive damage during the Blitz.

1952
The East End gangster twins, Ronnie and Reggie Kray, become the last prisoners to be held at the Tower.



2014
The Tower moat is filled with 888,246 ceramic poppies to mark the centenary of World War I.



ALAMY X4, GETTY X10, ROYAL ARMOURIES X2, TOPFOTO X1

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LOCK AND KEY
The portcullis at Traitor's Gate, through which countless convicts have been rowed

JOURNEY'S END
Often, the journey to Traitors' Gate involved passing London Bridge, where the heads of **executed criminals** were on display for all to see.

TERROR IN THE TOWER: THE PRISON

For some 850 years, the Tower housed the nation's most notorious villains, from would-be monarch murderers to dangerous rebels. **Tracy Borman** unveils the murkiest chapter in the Tower's history...

ALAMY X1

Even though it was originally built as a fortress and symbol of royal power, the Tower of London is best-known today as a place of imprisonment, torture and execution. Between 1100 and 1952, thousands of people were incarcerated within its walls, for crimes ranging from treason and conspiracy to murder, debt and sorcery. Some were held for days, others for many years. By no means all were locked away in cold, dark, damp rooms. Many lived in luxurious style, surrounded by comfortable furnishings, well-stocked larders, servants and loved ones.

But the Tower did not enjoy a very auspicious beginning as a prison. Its first-recorded prisoner, Bishop Flambard of Durham, escaped in 1101 by climbing through one of the White Tower's windows, using a rope that had been smuggled in to him.

Two centuries later, Roger Mortimer – lover of King Edward II's wife, Queen Isabella 'the She Wolf' of France – was incarcerated in the Tower for rebelling against the crown. Taking advantage of some celebrations held for the feast day of St Peter ad Vincula, on 1 August 1323, Mortimer had carried out a daring escape plan, which involved digging himself out of his cell and scaling the fortress walls with a rope ladder. He fled to France, where he and his lover whipped up support for an invasion of England. They returned to triumph in 1326 and, early the next year, Edward was forced to abdicate.

But these two successful-escape stories are exceptionally rare examples. Although many more prisoners attempted to flee this mighty fortress during the centuries that followed, most failed miserably. They included Henry Howard, Earl of Surrey, whom Henry VIII imprisoned on suspicion of plotting to make himself king. Once in the Tower, Surrey hatched a daring plan to escape, which involved squeezing through the shaft that ran from the latrine into the river below. He almost succeeded, but the guards raised the alarm when they saw that his bed was empty and found him making his way down the shaft. The hapless Earl was executed on Tower Hill on 19 January 1547, just nine days before Henry VIII himself breathed his last.

"THE TOWER'S FIRST-RECORDED PRISONER ESCAPED BY CLIMBING THROUGH A WINDOW"

The first royal captive held at the Tower was Princess Constance, the daughter of the French King Louis VI, who was betrothed to the English King Stephen's heir. She had been entrusted to the protection of the unscrupulous Constable of the Tower, Geoffrey de Mandeville, ahead of her nuptials in c1140. De Mandeville wasted no time in taking advantage of the situation. In blatant defiance of royal command, he held Constance prisoner, as if she were a pawn, until he could be sure who would triumph in the ongoing civil war.

BRUTAL TUDORS

The Tudor period witnessed more victims of royal wrath than any other. This was the era when a staggering number of high-profile statesmen, churchmen and even queens went to the block. The fortress came to epitomise the brutality of the Tudor regime, and of its most famous king, Henry VIII.

The most well-known of the Tower prisoners during the Tudor era was Henry VIII's notorious second queen, Anne Boleyn. High-handed and 'unqueenly', Anne soon made dangerous enemies at court. Among them was the King's Chief Minister, Thomas Cromwell, who was almost certainly responsible for her downfall. He drew inspiration from the Queen's flirtatious manner with her coterie of male favourites, and convinced the King that she was conducting affairs with five of them – her own brother included. Cromwell had them all rounded up, and the Queen herself was arrested on 2 May 1536. She was taken by barge to the Tower, protesting her innocence all the way, before being incarcerated in the very apartments that had been refurbished for her coronation.

Anne watched as her five alleged lovers were led to their deaths on Tower Hill on 17 May. She was told to prepare for her own death the following day. Although she remained composed, when her execution was delayed for a further day, she became almost hysterical. The Constable of the Tower, Sir William Kingston, looked on aghast as she put her hands around her neck and pronounced that the executioner should have no trouble because "I have a little neck", then "laughed heartily".



ASLEEP ON THE JOB
While his guards catch 40 winks, Bishop Flambard, the Tower's first prisoner, makes his exit...

10
The number of people executed within the Tower (excluding those shot in the rifle range during the World Wars)



DEATH ROW
Anne Boleyn begins her stretch in the Tower in 1536



FUTURE QUEEN
In 1554, Princess Elizabeth is locked up in the very lodgings her mother had been held in

BRIDGEMAN IMAGES X1, GETTY X3

Finally, on the morning of 19 May 1536, Anne was led to the scaffold. After a dignified speech, she knelt in the straw and closed her eyes to pray. With one clean strike, the executioner severed her head from her body. The 1,000-strong crowd looked on in horror as the fallen Queen's eyes and lips continued to move, as if in prayer, when the head was held aloft.

Anne's nemesis, Thomas Cromwell, had been among the onlookers at this macabre spectacle. His triumph would be short-lived. Four years later, he was summarily arrested on charges of treason and conveyed by barge to the Tower. He may have been housed in the same lodgings that Anne had been kept in before her execution.

Cromwell wrote to beg the King for his life, ending with a desperate plea for "mercye mercye mercye". Henry remained unmoved, and Cromwell went to the block on 28 July. The bungling executioner took three blows to sever his head, which was then set on a spike at London Bridge. In an act of extreme callousness, later that same day Henry married his fifth wife, Catherine Howard, who would herself be executed at the Tower in a mere 18 months.

Henry VIII had demonstrated that he had no respect for rank when it came to putting his perceived enemies to death. But even he might have been shocked at the next high-profile prisoner to fall victim to the Tudor game of thrones. In March 1554, his own daughter, Elizabeth, followed the horribly familiar journey by barge from Westminster to the Tower.

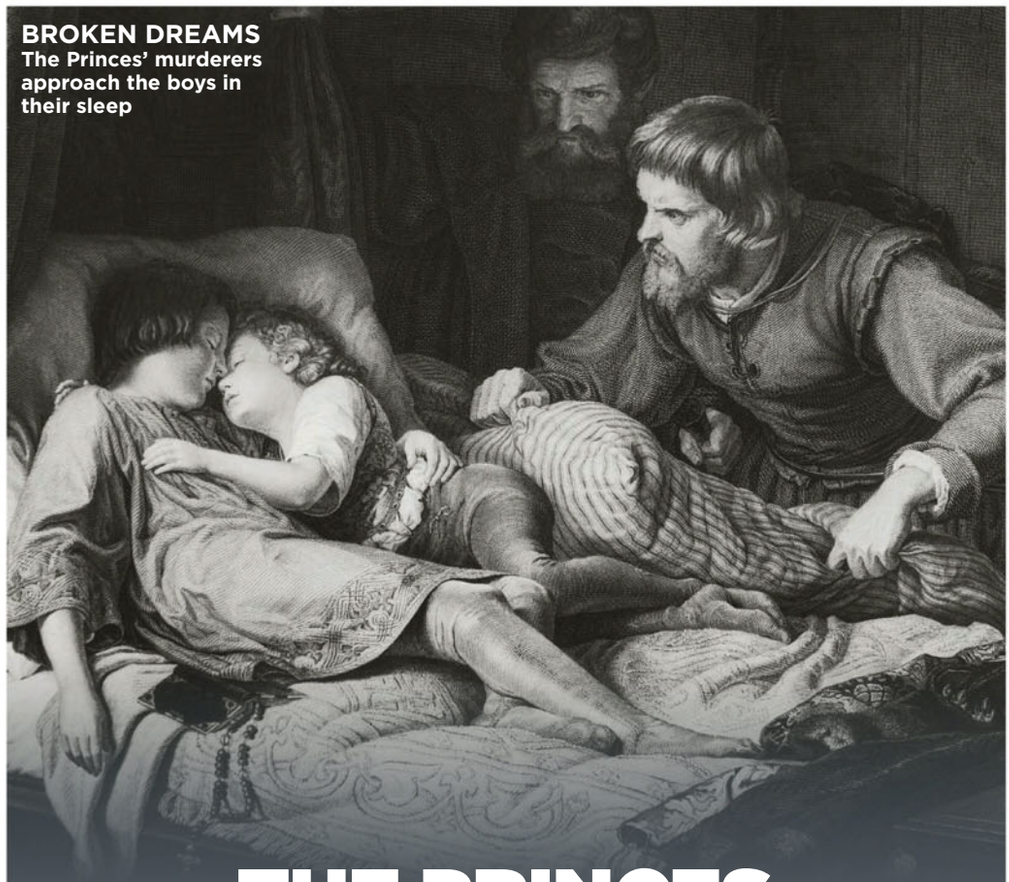
Elizabeth soon became a figurehead (albeit unwittingly) to the many plots and rebellions that sprang up against her half-sister, 'Bloody' Mary I. In 1554, just a year after Mary's accession, rebel leader Thomas Wyatt drove a revolt to place Elizabeth on the throne. Even though she was almost certainly innocent of any involvement, Mary was taking no chances: she had her half-sister taken to the Tower.

It was a cold, wet March day when Elizabeth arrived at the fortress. As she slowly mounted the steps next to Traitors' Gate, she suddenly



SISTERLY AFFECTION

Just a few months before her incarceration, **Elizabeth had been in favour** with her sibling, and was even part of Mary's triumphant procession through London.



BROKEN DREAMS
The Princes' murderers approach the boys in their sleep

THE PRINCES IN THE TOWER

The tragic fate of King Edward IV's sons

One of the most notorious episodes in the Tower's grim history as a prison is that involving the young Princes in the Tower. Upon the death of Edward IV in 1483, his son and heir, Edward, was just 12 years old, so the deceased King's brother, Richard, was appointed Lord Protector. Richard wasted no time in placing the boy and his younger brother, also named Richard, in the Tower, ostensibly for their own protection.

What happened next has been the subject of intense debate ever since, and is one of the darkest chapters in the Tower's long history. It is now widely accepted that some time during the autumn of that year, the two princes were quietly murdered. At whose hands, it will probably never be known. The prime suspect has long been Richard III, who had invalidated his nephews' claim to the throne and had himself crowned King in July 1483. But there were others with a vested interest in getting them out of the way – not least Richard's successor, Henry VII.

The two Princes had apparently disappeared without trace but, in 1674, a remarkable discovery was made at the Tower. The then King, Charles II, ordered the demolition of what remained of the royal palace to the south of the White Tower, including a turret that had once contained a privy staircase leading into St John's Chapel. Beneath the foundations of the staircase, the workmen were astonished to find a wooden chest containing two small skeletons. They were clearly the bones of children, and their height coincided with the age of the two Princes when they disappeared. An eyewitness was in no doubt as to their identity: "This day I... saw working men dig out of a stairway in the White Tower the bones of those two Princes who were foully murdered by Richard III."

The skeletons became something of a tourist attraction and remained on display for the next four years, until Charles II arranged for their reburial in Westminster Abbey. They lie there still, with a brief interruption in 1933 when a re-examination provided compelling evidence that they were the two Princes. The controversy over their death was reignited by the discovery of Richard III's skeleton in Leicester in 2012 and shows no sign of abating.

stopped and exclaimed: "Oh Lord! I never thought to have come in here as a prisoner." She was eventually persuaded to move on into the Tower, and was taken to the same lodgings where her mother had been held prisoner prior to her execution.

Elizabeth was finally allowed to leave the Tower on 19 May 1554 – 18 years to the day since her mother had been executed within the fortress. The irony cannot have been lost on her.

A NEW KING

The death of Elizabeth in 1603 signalled the end of the Tudor dynasty, but the Tower retained its reputation as a place of imprisonment and terror. One of the first prisoners of the next ruler, King James I of England and VI of Scotland, was the celebrated adventurer, Sir Walter Ralegh. The new King had him imprisoned on suspicion of conspiracy just a few weeks after his accession.

Ralegh was kept in two rooms on the upper floor of the Bloody Tower, and his faithful wife Bess often stayed with him. Their son, Carew, was conceived in the fortress and born in 1605, in a house on Tower Hill that Bess had rented. Ralegh became something of a tourist attraction during his prolonged spell in the Tower. The King's own son and heir, Prince Henry, even went to visit him. He was so dazzled by Ralegh's famous charm that he declared: "Only my father would keep such a bird in such a cage." In 1616, Ralegh was finally released so he could conduct an expedition to Venezuela to find the fabled *El Dorado* or 'City of Gold'. But upon his ignominious, empty-handed return, James had him thrown back into the Tower. This time there was no reprieve: Ralegh was executed at Westminster on 29 October 1618. His grief-stricken widow, Bess, kept his severed head with her for the rest of her days.

The Tower also housed another famous prisoner during James I's reign. When it became clear that the new King had no intention of following Elizabeth I's policy of religious toleration, a group of conspirators led by Robert Catesby hatched a plan to blow up the House of Lords during the State

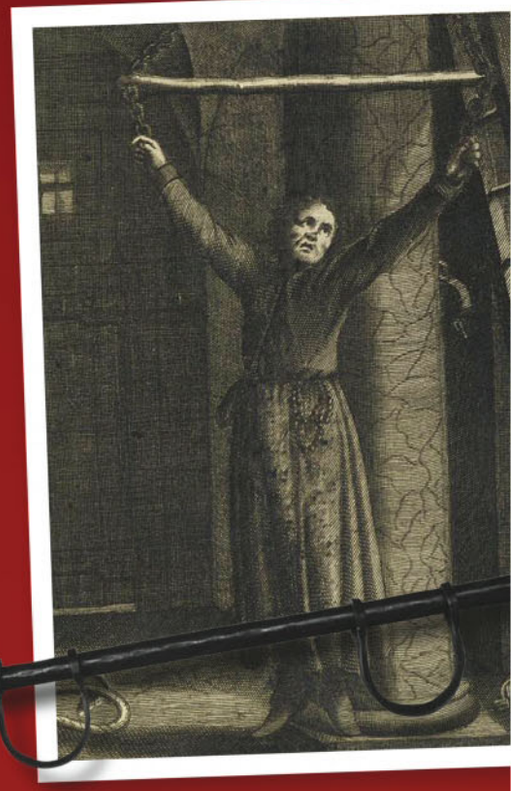
THE TORTURE TREATMENT

Many convicts were subjected to terrifying methods of confession extraction...

Although the number of recorded cases of torture in the Tower is relatively low, the threat of it was often enough to make prisoners talk. It was common practice for stubborn inmates to be shown the instruments of torture. John Gerard, a Jesuit priest imprisoned in the Tower during Elizabeth I's reign, described his torment:

"We went to the torture room in a kind of solemn procession... The chamber was underground and dark, particularly near the entrance. It was a vast place and every device and instrument of human torture was there. They pointed out some of them to me and said I would try them all."

Also notorious was a cell named 'Little Ease', which was so cramped that the inmate could neither lie down nor stand straight.





▲ MANACLES

This simple torture involved suspending the victim by the arms for a long period of time. The wrists were placed in heavy iron rings that were attached to the wall or pillars over their head. One victim, the Jesuit missionary Henry Walpole, was subjected to the manacles 14 times, causing him to lose the use of his fingers for a while and permanently ruined his handwriting.

FAMOUS INMATES

The Tower has held some very high-profile convicts...

LOVE AT LAST SIGHT

Before her own execution, Lady Jane Grey had to **watch her husband** go to his death. She then saw his body, and **severed head**, brought back in a cart.



John Balliol

King of Scots, imprisoned from 1296-99

Having surrendered to Edward I after the English King's successful invasion, John spent three years in the Tower, before he was given over to the custody of Pope Boniface VIII. After his release in 1301, he lived out his days on his family's ancestral estate in Picardy.



Henry VI

Confined from 1465-70 and 1471 during the Wars of the Roses

The last Lancastrian King of England, Henry was one of two English ruling monarchs to die at the Tower (the other was the uncrowned Edward V). He was twice imprisoned there by his rival, Edward IV, who may have ordered his murder in 1471.



Anne Boleyn

Queen of England, jailed in May 1536 for treason

Anne was accused of adultery with five men, including her own brother George. It's quite possible that her only real crime, though, was failing to give Henry VIII a son. She was executed less than three weeks after arriving at the Tower.



Lady Jane Grey

Imprisoned from 1553-54 for treason

The 'nine days' Queen', Jane had been placed on the throne by her ambitious father after Edward VI's death, usurping the rightful heir, Mary Tudor. She remained a figurehead for opposition after Mary took control and was executed in February 1554.

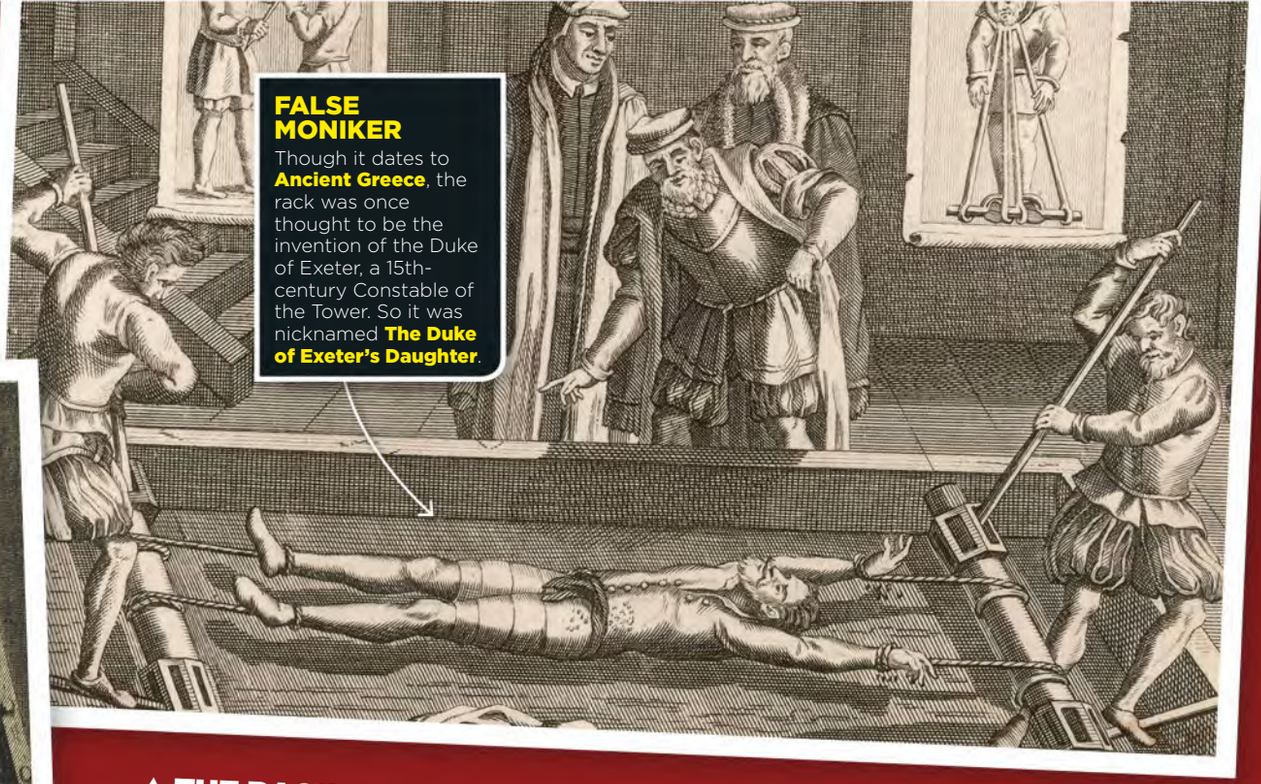


Elizabeth I

Held on suspicion of treason, March-May 1554

Along with her mother, Anne Boleyn, Elizabeth is one of the Tower's most famous inmates. She was thrown into the Tower on suspicion of being involved in a rebellion against her half-sister Mary, but there was no evidence to convict her and she was released.

ALAMY X4, BRIDGEMAN IMAGES X1, GETTY X6, MARY EVANS X1, ROYAL ARMOURIES X2, TOPFOTO X1



FALSE MONIKER

Though it dates to **Ancient Greece**, the rack was once thought to be the invention of the Duke of Exeter, a 15th-century Constable of the Tower. So it was nicknamed **The Duke of Exeter's Daughter**.

▲ THE RACK

One of the most common forms of torture was the infamous rack. Victims were laid on a bed, their hands and feet tied to rollers, and slowly pulled in opposite directions, stretching the body to the point of agony. Often, joints were pulled out of sockets. One of the most horrific cases was Anne Askew's, who was arrested for protesting Henry VIII's religious reforms in 1546. She described how she was racked "till I was nigh dead" and fainted with the pain, but her interrogators brought her back to consciousness.

▶ THE SCAVENGER'S DAUGHTER

The Scavenger's Daughter was the opposite form of torture to the rack – but just as excruciating. It was the name given to a set of leg, wrist and neck irons that forced the victim into bone-crushing contortions. An Elizabethan critic of the device described it as "a hellish compression... a bestial torture, in every way worse than the rack."



◀ THE SCOLD'S BRIDLE

This fearsome mask is likely just part of a scold's bridle device, designed to punish gossips and other minor offenders. Not visible here, such iron muzzles included a serrated tongue, inserted and secured into the mouth, causing great pain.





Catherine Grey

Incarcerated for marrying in secret, 1561-63

Sister of Lady Jane Grey, Catherine was a rival to Elizabeth I. When the Queen learned that Catherine had secretly married the Earl of Hertford, she committed both to the Tower. In 1563, Catherine was taken to a safe house in Suffolk, where she died of tuberculosis five years later.



Guy Fawkes

Arrested for treason from 1605-06

Fawkes was the most notorious of the Gunpowder Plotters, whose attempt to blow up Parliament came close to success in November 1605. He and his fellow conspirators confessed under torture at the Tower and suffered a traitor's death in January 1606.



The Duke of Monmouth

Imprisoned for treason in 1685

James Scott, Duke of Monmouth, was the illegitimate son of Charles II. In 1685, he led a rebellion against his unpopular uncle, James II and VII, but his troops were crushed at Sedgemoor. It took "five Chopps" to sever his head from his body.



Sir Roger Casement

Held in 1916 for supporting the Easter Rising

Casement had been a public hero for his stand against slavery, but he was also held strong Irish nationalist views, and he tried to enlist Irish volunteers and German leaders to his cause during WWI. After his arrest, he was taken to the Tower and later hanged as a traitor.



Rudolf Hess

Incarcerated as a Prisoner of War in 1941

After arriving in Scotland – possibly on an unauthorised peace mission – Hess was picked up by authorities and kept in the Tower for a few days before being moved to another location. After the war, he was tried and given a life sentence, served out at Spandau prison in Berlin.



TREASON AND PLOT
FAR LEFT **The Gunpowder Plotters meet traitors' ends** LEFT: **Before and after – the effect of torture on Guy Fawkes's signature** BELOW LEFT: **The Earl of Nithsdale escapes with his wife's help, 1716** BELOW: **Prisoners carved into their cell walls, creating Tudor 'graffiti'**

"GUY FAWKES EVENTUALLY CONFESSED AFTER SUFFERING THE AGONY OF THE RACK"

A TRAITOR'S END
The form of execution reserved for those guilty of high treason was to be **hanged, drawn and quartered**. The convicts were first hanged until nearly dead, then drawn by a horse, then emasculated, disembowelled, and beheaded before their bodies were chopped into four pieces.

Opening of Parliament on 5 November 1605. It was only thanks to an anonymous tip-off that the King and his Protestant regime were not wiped out. When the House of Lords was searched at around midnight on 4 November, just hours before the plot was due to be executed, Guy Fawkes was discovered with 36 barrels of gunpowder – more than enough to reduce the building to rubble.

Fawkes was taken straight to the Tower, along with his fellow plotters. They were interrogated in the Queen's House, close to the execution site. Fawkes eventually confessed after suffering the agony of the rack. The shaky signature on his confession (see above) suggests he was barely able to hold a pen. He and his fellow conspirators met grisly ends at Westminster in January 1606. It is said that the gunpowder with which they had planned to obliterate James's regime was taken to the Tower for safekeeping.

LASTING IMPRESSION

Some of the most notable prisoners of the 16th and 17th centuries left their marks. Visitors to the Beauchamp Tower can still see graffiti, carved into the stonework by the likes of the Catholic recusant Sir Philip Howard, Earl of Arundel. The Earl was imprisoned by Elizabeth I in 1585 and languished in the Tower until his death ten years later.

The rise of the Jacobites (supporters of the son and grandson of the ousted King James II) in the 18th century swelled the ranks of the Tower's prisoners once more. One of the most famous Jacobite rebels was the Scottish peer William Maxwell, 5th Earl of Nithsdale, who declared for the Old Pretender King James in the Scottish Borders before joining the English Jacobite army in Northumberland. King George I's army quashed the rebel forces at the Battle of Preston in 1715, and Nithsdale was brought south to the Tower along with the other ringleaders.

Upon hearing of her beloved husband's capture, Lady Nithsdale hatched a daring escape plan, which involved dressing her husband in women's clothes and walking past the guards with his head bowed, as if he was in great distress. This part of the plan was carried out with remarkable success and Lord Nithsdale made it out of the Tower to a waiting coach, which carried him to safety. Meanwhile, in order to delay the discovery, his wife remained in the cell and pretended to conduct a conversation with her husband, imitating his deep masculine voice. Finally, she let herself out, pleading with the guards not to disturb Nithsdale, who was deep in prayer. Once reunited, the couple fled to Rome, where they lived out their days, poor but happy.

By the dawn of the 20th century, it seemed that the Tower's role as a fortress and prison was to become a thing of the past. But the advent of World War I changed all of that. One of the first prisoners of the war to be housed at the Tower was a German spy named Carl Hans Lody, who arrived in Britain at the beginning of the war, posing as an American. When his true identity was discovered by MI5, he was tried by a court martial in London and condemned to death. He spent the night before his execution at the Tower and wrote a touching last letter to his family, telling them: "Tomorrow I shall be shot here in the Tower. I have had just judges, and I shall die as an Officer, not as a spy. Farewell. God bless you." Lody was the first of 11 spies to be executed by firing squad in the fortress during the conflict.

8,000
The approximate number of people who have been jailed within the Tower walls

World War II brought with it another influx of prisoners, including, in May 1941, Hitler's right-hand man, Rudolf Hess, who was brought to London after landing unexpectedly in Scotland, possibly on a peace mission. He was kept in the Queen's House, and spent a comfortable four days there before being transferred to a series of safe houses.

The last-known prisoners of the Tower were the notorious Kray twins. Ronnie and Reggie were kept there briefly in 1952, for absenting themselves from National Service. Shortly after that, the fortress closed its prison doors forever, bringing to an end 852 years of terror in the Tower of London.

ART ARCHIVE X1, GETTY X3, HISTORIC ROYAL PALACES X1



GET HOOKED

Delve further into the history of the Tower – pay it a visit, or immerse yourself in a book or film

WHAT TO SEE



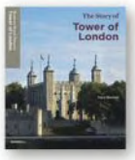
▲ THE TOWER OF LONDON
Visit the fortress itself – see the Crown Jewels and the ravens, take a Yeoman Warder tour and walk around the White Tower – and connect with 1,000 years of history.

EVENTS AT THE TOWER

- **The Tudors at the Tower family festival** *23-26 July 2015*
- **Curious connections... image and leadership** *a panel discussion, 7 July 2015*

Find details at www.hrp.org.uk/TowerOfLondon

BOOKS



THE STORY OF THE TOWER (2015)
by Tracy Borman
If you've enjoyed our feature then continue your journey with this official illustrated account, written by the same historian.



THE TOWER MENAGERIE (2004)
by Daniel Hahn
This charming history tells the full story of the Tower's zoo, covering 600 years of history and our changing attitudes to its animals.

ALSO READ

- **Prisoners of the Tower (2004)** *published by Historic Royal Palaces*
- **Tower: An Epic History of the Tower of London (2011)** *by Nigel Jones*
- **Tales from the Tower: Secrets and Stories from a Gory and Glorious Past (2006)** *by Fiona Jerome*

ON SCREEN



THE TOWER OF LONDON (1939)
Following the rise of Richard III, this film casts a villainous light over the future King, who is brought to life by Basil Rathbone.

ALSO WATCH

- ***Tower of London (1962)***
- ***The Shadow of the Tower (1972)***
- ***Muppets Most Wanted (2014)***

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AT A GLANCE

For three weeks in summer, France is transformed into a giant cycling track for the sport's most prestigious and gruelling race: the Tour de France. It began in 1903 to help boost a cycling paper's circulation, but its popularity grew, thanks to superhuman feats of endurance, headline-grabbing scandals and the stunning scenery of the mountain stages.

VIVE LE TOUR!

The Tour de France remains the world's toughest long-distance cycling test – but it's nothing compared to the race in its first decades

OFFSIDE - L'EQUIPE X5, GETTY X1

FIRST SUPERSTARS

From the inaugural race in 1903, the Tour became a place to make your name in the world of cycling



THE FRONT RIDER

On 1 July 1903, riders set off from Paris on the inaugural Tour – a 1,500-mile circular ride to Marseille and back. Italian-born Maurice Garin won the first of the six stages and retained the lead until the finish line, celebrating a comfortable victory of nearly three hours on 19 July with a cigarette. The Tour was declared a rousing success.



FACE OF THE TOUR

Henri Desgrange (pictured, on the left, in 1938 alongside a later great of the Tour, Gino Bartali) organised the first race in the hope of rescuing his struggling cycling paper *L'Auto*, but it was actually the idea of one of the paper's junior writers. Desgrange remained an organiser and patron of the Tour until 1939.

FABER THE GIANT

Facing the worst weather the Tour had seen, from heavy rain to snow, as well as being knocked down by a horse, Luxembourg's François Faber's victory in 1909 was a supreme achievement. Known as the 'Giant of Colombes', he won five consecutive stages (a record that still stands), one of which he had to finish by pushing his bike for almost a mile after his chain broke.



MOUNTAIN STAGES WERE SO STEEP AND ROCKY, EVERYONE HAD TO GET OFF AND WALK THEIR BIKES

UPHILL STRUGGLE

In 1910, brutal mountain stages through the Pyrenees were added, which involved riding up unsealed roads on single-gear bikes. Only 41 of the 110 starting riders reached the finish. Faber, who collided with a dog and suffered multiple punctures, was narrowly pipped by Frenchman Octave Lapize (below), who won by only four points.

EVERY YEAR, WELL OVER HALF OF THE FIELD WOULD PULL OUT OF THE RACE

FOOD RATIONS
As stages could take all day to complete, riders made quick stops so they could grab something to eat, such as Robert Jacquinot, enjoying a bowl of soup during the 1922 race. It did the trick, as Jacquinot held the yellow jersey – worn by the race leader since 1919 – for a few days before puncturing three tyres.

TIRED OF THE TYRES
Before support cars became the norm, if something went wrong with their bikes, riders repaired it themselves using spares they had to carry. Tyres, for example, were hung tightly around the shoulders, which could restrict movement. The winner of the 1921 Tour, Belgium's Léon Scieur (right), rode for 186 miles with a broken wheel strapped to his back, leaving him with scars.

OFFSIDE - L'EQUIPE X6, GETTY X1

CONTROVERSIES

Scandals are hardly a recent blight on the Tour – in fact, they've dogged the race from the outset



THE 'LAST' TOUR

In the wake of the second Tour, organiser Desgrange announced it would be the "last", following incessant cheating and foul play. Many riders took shortcuts or rode trains, while others were pelted with stones by partisan crowds. Eventually, a dozen were disqualified – including Hippolyte Aucouturier, who had won four stages.



"YOU ARE MURDERERS!"

Today, the mountain stages offer spectacular views, but when the Pyrenees routes were introduced in 1910, they were dangerous and almost impossible to ride. Rider Octave Lapize famously cried when reaching one of the summits: "You are murderers!"

MOONLIGHTING

During the earliest Tours, some of the stages would be completed at night, with riding taking place in the pitch black. This was, however, swiftly brought to an end when it became known that many racers were using the darkness to cheat, by taking shortcuts when the judges couldn't see them.



BREAKING POINT

To clinch victory in 1926, Lucien Buysse endured arguably the toughest Tour ever. At 3,500 miles, it was the longest (the route traced the border of France) and there was a terrible thunderstorm as he went over the Pyrenees, which forced many other riders to abandon the race. The 34-year-old Belgian was also informed during the race that his daughter had died, but he was encouraged by his family to carry on.





TOUR DE FORCE

After finishing runner-up the previous year, Italian master cyclist Ottavio Bottecchia (centre) raced past the competition to win in 1924, becoming the first rider to wear the yellow jersey from start to finish. He looked set to be the greatest of all time when he won again the next year, but in 1927, he was found dead by the side of the road in mysterious circumstances.





RIGHT SIDE OF THE TRACKS

The Tour's routes were not boarded off, but slotted into the French towns and country. In 1935, the eventual winner, Romain Maes from Belgium, seized an early advantage when he made it past a train crossing just before the barriers fell, cutting off the other riders and forcing them to wait.

THE LOCAL BREW

One of the benefits of racing through the streets of French towns was that there was never a shortage in support, both with a friendly word of encouragement and with food or drink. Swiss cyclists Henri Collé and Charles Parel have been treated to a pint of beer before continuing.

BOOMING SPORT

The Tour was embraced by the people of France – and attracted cycling fans from across Europe



BUMPER TO HANDLEBAR

Even on the winding country roads of France, huge crowds turned out to cheer on their favourite cyclists. Enthusiastic spectators, however, often ended up blocking the roads so that riders had to squeeze through them slowly, or get off the bike and barge through.



RELYING ON OTHERS

From the beginning, long-distance cyclists had teams and sponsors – the first winner, Maurice Garin, rode for the *La Française* team. But over the years, the support team's role grew. Seen here at the 1931 Tour, Belgian Alphonse Schepers collects a bag of food from a team member.

THE RICH AND FAMOUS

On 27 June 1933, African-American singer and dancer Josephine Baker (kneeling, far right, next to the France team) officially began the race. A fluent French speaker, the risqué stage performer had become a huge star in the country, but she couldn't inspire the team to their fourth consecutive victory in the Tour.





LANTERNE ROUGE

Everyone wants to be the one wearing the yellow jersey, but, to this day, the rider in last place is still given another honour – the *lanterne rouge* ('red lantern'). It refers to the red light at the back of a vehicle, but some riders have taken the title to heart. In 1927, Jacques Pfister and Pierre Claes saw the funny side of their position and carried a lantern.

THE ONLY TIMES THE TOUR HASN'T BEEN RUN ARE DUE TO THE WORLD WARS



CYCLING AND WAR HERO

Celebrated Italian cyclist Gino Bartali was tipped for multiple Tour victories when he won in 1938, but the declaration of World War II meant the race was halted. He spent the war assisting the Italian resistance, and he saved the lives of a Jewish family by hiding them in his cellar. When the Tour resumed, the war hero Bartali returned to cycling and won again in 1948.

OFFSIDE - L'EQUIPE X7

FROM THE MAKERS OF BBC HISTORY MAGAZINE

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ROYAL WOMEN

EXPERT VIEWS ON BRITAIN'S QUEENS AND PRINCESSES – FROM TUDORS TO WINDSORS



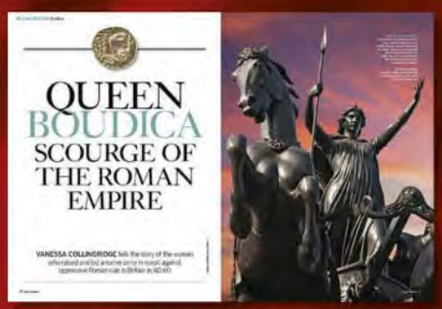
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SET IN STONE
One of the countless statues of the philosopher stands in the Confucian Temple of Shanghai, founded in 1294

THE GREAT SAGE CONFUCIUS

Though he may be one of the most influential characters in human history, as **Michael Schuman** recounts, Confucius saw very little success his own lifetime

ALAMY X2, GETTY X1



When Confucius was at the height of his power, in 500 BC, he entered a devious trap. As a minister of the state of Lu in eastern China – it would be many years before he was considered a great philosopher – Confucius attended a peace summit between the warring Dukes of his homeland and its neighbour, the state of Qi. The Dukes had finally decided to bury the hatchet. Or so Lu's leaders had been led to believe...

The Duke of Qi had other, less honourable intentions. He and his ministers had secretly enlisted a warlike tribe – the Lai – to kidnap Lu's ruler at the summit and force him to concede to their demands. Confucius, who was to act as master of ceremonies, was too weak to stand in the way, they believed. One Qi minister sniffed that Confucius "is acquainted with ceremonies, but has no courage."

Nothing could have been further from the truth. As the talks began, so too did the Qi plot. A group of Lai tribesmen, armed with spears, swords and shields, approached the negotiations. Confucius, sensing the danger, valiantly stepped forward to defend his lord. Ordering the warriors to be repulsed, Confucius scolded the Duke of Qi: "Weapons of war should not come near a friendly meeting," he proclaimed. "In point of virtue, it is contrary to what is right; as between man and man, it is a failure in propriety."

Humiliated, the Duke of Qi sent the Lai away, and later signed a peace treaty highly favourable to Confucius's government. The Qi delegation trudged home in disgrace. "In Lu, they use the gentleman's way to guide their prince," the Duke of Qi berated his ministers, "while all you teach me is the barbarian way."

It was a great triumph for Confucius, a moment when he displayed his broad intellect, fierce determination and commitment to justice. But, in reality, it was one of the few victories of his political career. Confucius spent much of his life desperately seeking a duke or king to follow his doctrine – and failing. His ideas, which would come to shape Chinese civilisation, were largely ignored during his day.

SUPREME SAGE

The disregard with which Confucius was often treated when alive contrasts sharply with how he was respected in later centuries. The man would be heralded in China as the Supreme Sage and the most important person in Chinese history. Imperial dynasties adopted his doctrine as a governing orthodoxy for nearly two millennia. Emperors kowtowed before shrines erected in his honour, and students memorised his words to prepare for civil service examinations, which were the best route to wealth and power.

His life became a model one, his actions the standard by which proper behaviour was judged. At one point, during the first 200 years AD, it was believed Confucius was a superhuman being, with powers and a mystical physique to match. One text describes him as having "a dragon frame, a tortoise's spine, and tiger paws."

Even today, 2,500 years after Confucius lived, his ideas influence the daily lives of nearly a quarter of humanity. That ranks Confucius among the founders of global civilisation, along with Jesus, Muhammad, Buddha, and the great Greek philosophers.

The story of his life, however, offers few inklings of this future greatness. Though his later admirers would craft tales of his mystical birth – one claims he was a sort of Chinese Perseus, the part-god, part-human progeny of a spiritual Black Emperor - Confucius's true origins were far more humble.

"Even today, 2,500 years after Confucius lived, his ideas influence the daily lives of nearly a quarter of humanity."

Born in 551 BC, his father was an elderly, minor government official and his mother a local teenager. Some modern historians speculate that Confucius was illegitimate, since an ancient biography tantalisingly tells us he was conceived "in the wilds," not in his father's home, as would be appropriate for a married couple. Confucius's father died when he was a toddler, and his young mother raised him alone, shunned by her deceased husband's family.

This background did not bode well for Confucius's future. The China of his day was a feudal society in which birth and social status were more important than intelligence or skills. Confucius, though, made a decision early in life that would determine his destiny. "At 15, I set my heart on learning," Confucius tells us. He would become one of the most knowledgeable scholars of his day, especially about the history, literature and philosophy of an age even deeper in Chinese antiquity. It was from these studies that Confucius crafted his doctrine – what became known as Confucianism.

His purpose in developing his ideas was to restore peace to a China ravaged by conflict. Confucius lived during the Spring and Autumn Period of Chinese history – a time when numerous petty kingdoms and fiefdoms battled with each other for territory, treasure and power. Confucius preached what was then a radical notion: the ruling elite of China should forego their weapons and set aside their greed, and govern the nation with benevolence and righteousness. Only then would they gain the true loyalty of the people and usher in a new golden age. Confucius believed that every person, from the ruler down to the most humble farmer, should strive to improve themselves and do the right thing. Then, all of society would become stable and prosperous.

TOUGH CROWD

Convincing the dukes and nobles to adhere to these ideas proved difficult, however. In his first job, he managed the granaries and, later, the livestock of an influential family in Lu. "I was of humble station when young," Confucius once explained. "That is why I am skilled in many menial things." His sound management, though, caught the attention of Lu's government and, through a series of twists and turns – including a stint in exile – he would eventually become minister of justice.

At the height of his power, in the period after the successful peace summit of 500 BC, Confucius attempted to overhaul Lu's government. He mandated that Lu's three noble clans dismantle the protective walls around their home cities – a decree aimed at elevating the control of the central authority over the clans. Unfortunately, that led to armed conflicts between the Duke's forces and two noble families. Confucius supposedly led troops himself to rescue his ruler from disaster in one battle. Ultimately, though, Confucius failed to break the power of the nobles.

Instead, it appears that Confucius lost out in these political squabbles. In 497 BC, he left Lu with a small band of loyal disciples – students who had accepted his doctrine – never to



BRIDGEMAN IMAGES X1, GETTY X3

A LEGACY OF LESSONS

Arguably, Confucius was one of the best teachers in human history. His ideas have more than influenced Eastern society; over the centuries, they have become deeply imbued in its civilisations. And all that is because of the impact he had on his students – the way in which he inspired them to go and spread the word themselves.



BIRTHDAY BOY
It's not certain exactly when Confucius's birthday is, but in Taiwan it is celebrated on 28 September – as in much of East Asia – and it is also an official holiday: **Teachers' Day**.

BUDGET TRAVEL
Confucius is often depicted with an ox cart during his years of wandering, but he actually used **whatever transport** he could find, whether a cart, chariot, or simply on foot.

THE ROAD TO RENOWN
1: **Having travelled in a humble ox cart, Confucius and his followers arrive at the court of Chu**
2: **The wayfarers rest by the Huang He, or Yellow River, on their journey**
3: **The leader lectures his students on the virtue of filial piety – such lessons are still taught today**
4: **Confucius may not have been praised in his lifetime, but he has been much honoured since, as this c1770 portrait shows**

CONFUCIUS'S TEACHINGS

BENEVOLENCE

Confucius's entire doctrine was based on the power of virtue, and no single virtue was more important than benevolence. To be benevolent, Confucius said that one must exhibit respectfulness, tolerance, trustworthiness in word, quickness, and generosity. Once, when asked about benevolence, he simply replied: "Love your fellow men."

FILIAL PIETY

Confucius saw strong families as the foundation of a strong society, and filial piety was the most critical principle in forging a good family. Children, in Confucius's eyes, should always obey and honour their parents. "Give your father and mother no other cause for anxiety than illness," he asserted.

RECIPROCITY

Much of Confucius's teachings deal with proper human relations and, in his mind, all interaction should be based on reciprocity. In fact, he preached a form of the Golden Rule five centuries before Jesus. "What you do not want done to yourself, do not do to others," he said.

SELF-CULTIVATION

Confucius believed a man's quest for betterment was never-ending, and anyone's ultimate goal should not be wealth or fame, but becoming a good person. "What the gentleman seeks, he seeks within himself; what the small man seeks, he seeks in others," Confucius proclaimed.

LEARNING

Confucius thought education was indispensable for becoming a good person. Even someone with the best of intentions might go astray if not guided by studies. "To love benevolence without loving learning is liable to lead to foolishness," he said.

LEADERSHIP

Confucius believed that a proper head should always lead by example. "If a man is correct in his own person, then there will be obedience without orders being given," Confucius said. "But if he is not correct in his own person, there will not be obedience even though orders are given."

GOOD GOVERNMENT

Though Confucius is often criticised as a proponent of autocracy, he was, in fact, opposed to dictatorships. A truly good government had no need for coercion if it ruled with virtue. "The rule of virtue can be compared to the Pole Star, which commands the homage of the multitude of stars without leaving its place," Confucius once stated.

JUSTICE

Doctrines of all types have advice on how to confront evil. Christians tell us to "turn the other cheek." Confucius, though, believed a wrong should be set right. He was once asked: "What do you say concerning the principle that injury should be recompensed with kindness?" Confucius replied: "With what then will you recompense kindness? Recompense injury with justice, and recompense kindness with kindness."





LASTING PILLARS
RIGHT: **A child kneels before his or her elders in a 12th-century display of filial piety**
FAR RIGHT: **Justice is dished out in a 17th-century magistrates' court**



SANJIAO
The three major religions of China – **Confucianism, Taoism and Buddhism** – are referred to as *Sanjiao*, or the 'Three Teachings'.



FATHER OF IDEAS
ABOVE: **In this 18th-century painting, Confucius is seen with the two other major Chinese teachers, handing the infant Buddha to Laozi**
RIGHT: **Schoolchildren raise their copies of the *Analects* – Confucius's words of wisdom**

hold office in the state again. Tidbits from one ancient text suggest that Confucius had fallen out of favour with the Duke of Lu. One tale, though, blames the crafty Duke of Qi – probably still smarting from his humiliation at the peace summit – for engineering Confucius's downfall. The story goes that the Duke sent the ruler of Lu a gift of 80 of the prettiest dancing girls he could find to enchant Lu's ruler, who sure enough, neglected his duties. That was enough to convince the high-minded Confucius that his boss was unworthy, and he left Lu in search of a more committed leader. As he rode away, he chanted a song: "A woman's words / Can cost a man his head; Then why not retire / To spend my last years as I please?"

A WANDERING MIND

What followed was an exhausting journey across China, which lasted for about 13 years. Confucius wandered from state to state, searching for a government to employ him and adopt his teachings. Yet, again and again, he was disappointed. His growing frustration tested his moral resolve. On one occasion, the leader of a rebellion sought his services, and he considered joining the uprising until his travelling companions protested. "How can I allow myself to be treated like a gourd which, instead of being eaten, hangs from the end of a string?" Confucius lamented.

In the state of Wei, Confucius tried to lobby for a job by accepting a summons from the local Duke's wife – a lady who had earned herself a saucy reputation for sexual exploits. His disciples disapproved, forcing Confucius to defend his honour. "If I have done anything improper, may Heaven's curse be on me!" he declared.

At times, the small party faced destitution, even death. After leaving the state of Chen, Confucius and his disciples found themselves lost in a wilderness without proper food. "When the provisions ran out, the followers [of Confucius] had become so weak that none of them could rise to their feet," one text recounts.

Why did Confucius fail in his grand mission to save China? He was a man ahead of his time. The power-hungry rulers of his day sought advice on military strategy and political manoeuvring. Instead, Confucius told them to be benevolent and care for the common man. Those words fell on deaf ears. During one of Confucius's visits to Wei, for instance, he seemed to be gaining the respect of its ruling Duke – until the leader asked about army formations. "I have, indeed, heard something about the use of sacrificial vessels, but I have never studied the matter of commanding troops," Confucius answered. That ended his hopes for a job in the state, and he departed.

"Confucius and his disciples found themselves lost in a wilderness"

FINAL DAYS

Eventually, Confucius returned home to Lu, having received an invitation from its new Duke. But even there, no job awaited him. He withdrew from public life and focused on his beloved studies. In 479 BC, at 73 years of age, Confucius fell ill and died. "The world has long strayed from the true way," he told the disciple tending him in his final days, "and no one can follow me."

Yet, in a way, Confucius's life was really just beginning. Where he did excel was as a teacher, and Confucius had collected a group of disciples who were every bit as committed to his cause as he was. We don't know for certain how many disciples he had. One ancient biographer, with a penchant for exaggeration, claimed Confucius had 3,000 students, but another, probably more reliable text puts the figure at a mere 70. These followers taught his doctrine to students of their own. It was probably that next generation that recorded the *Analects* – the most reliable source of Confucius's wisdom, which is primarily comprised of snippets of conversations that Confucius had with his disciples.

As the centuries passed, the number of adherents to Confucius's doctrine gradually grew, until his teachings turned into the most influential school of philosophy in East Asia, and, beginning with the Han Dynasty (206 BC – AD 220), the governing ideology of the Chinese Empire.

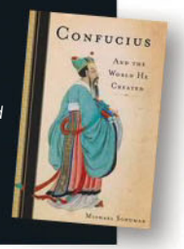
The failed politician and humble teacher became one of the most revered people in Asian history. "Great art thou, O perfect sage!" read one prayer to Confucius during imperial ceremonies in his honour. "Among mortal men there has not been thine equal."

ART ARCHIVE X3, GETTY X1

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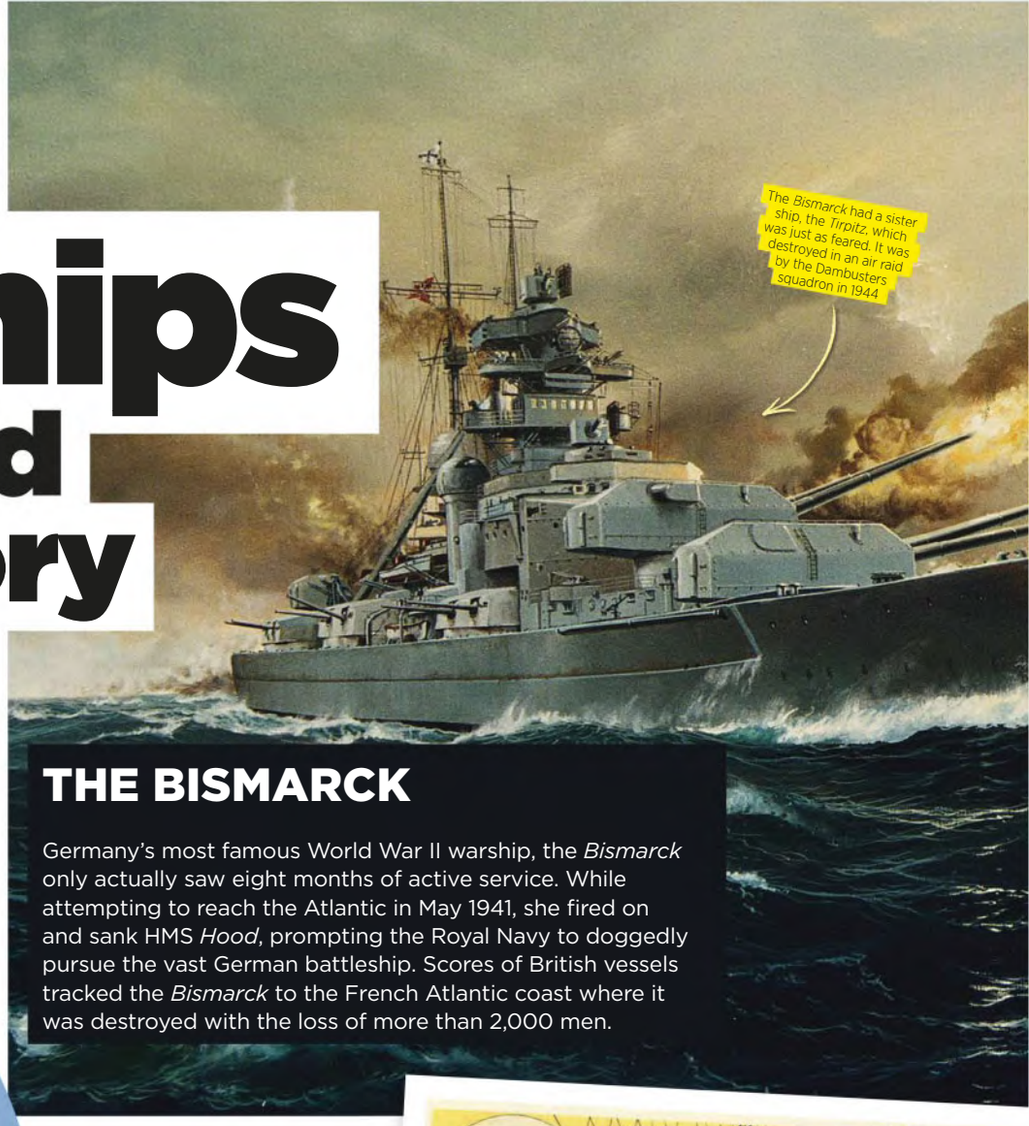
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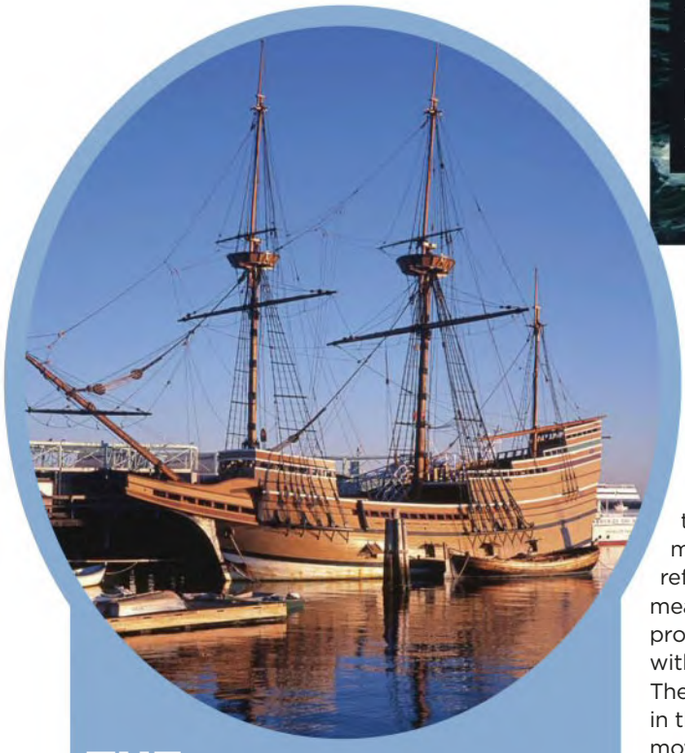
The ships that sailed into history

From Viking ships to luxurious ocean liners, **Nige Tassell** nominates the tubs that have made the biggest waves...



THE BISMARCK

Germany's most famous World War II warship, the *Bismarck* only actually saw eight months of active service. While attempting to reach the Atlantic in May 1941, she fired on and sank HMS *Hood*, prompting the Royal Navy to doggedly pursue the vast German battleship. Scores of British vessels tracked the *Bismarck* to the French Atlantic coast where it was destroyed with the loss of more than 2,000 men.



THE MAYFLOWER

In 1620, the *Mayflower* set sail from England for North America. The ship arrived at what is now Cape Cod two months later, but the journey was far from smooth. Terrible storms and food shortages made it an extremely traumatic new start for those on board. The 102 Separatists, or pilgrims, were escaping religious persecution in Europe. The settlement they founded – the second permanent English colony in the New World after Jamestown was established 13 years previously – was named New Plymouth.

POTEMKIN

The Russian battleship was the crucible for one of the most famous mutinies in history. In 1905, the ship's second-in-command threatened to shoot any member of the crew who refused to eat the rotten meat they'd been served with, prompting an uprising that ended with seven of her officers dead. The mutiny was later dramatised in the landmark 1925 silent movie *Battleship Potemkin*.

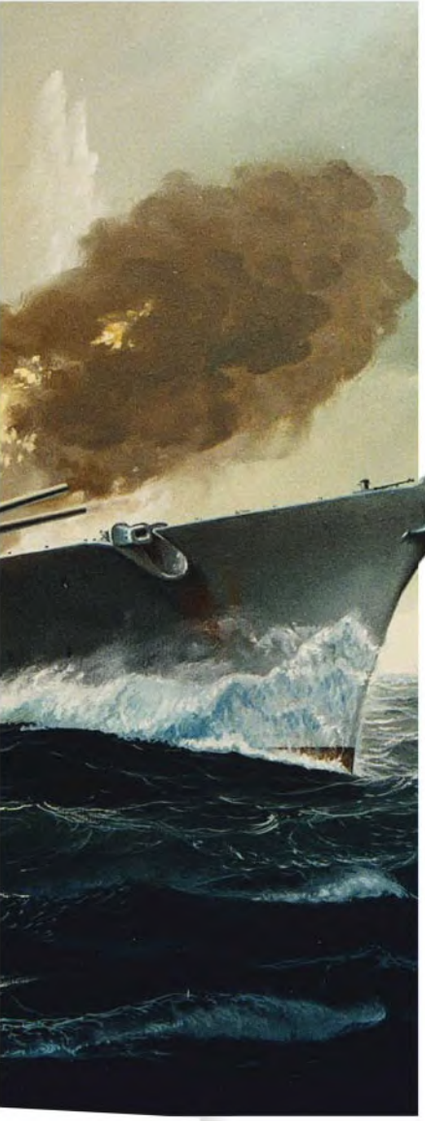


THE VICTORIA

Part of the five-vessel expedition led by Portuguese explorer Ferdinand Magellan in 1519, the *Victoria* was the only ship to return to Seville, making it the first to circumnavigate the globe. Not that Magellan was party to the historic event – he was murdered in the Philippines. In fact, only 18 of the expedition's original 265 men made it home.



ALAMY X2, GETTY X8



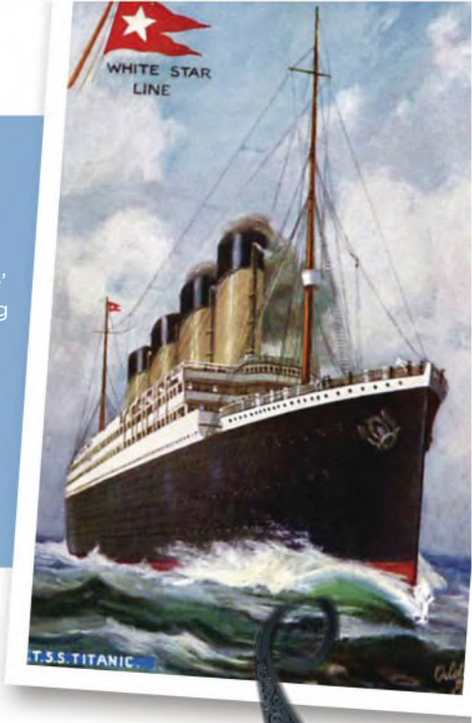


HMS BEAGLE

Originally part of the Royal Navy fleet, the *Beagle* gained its immortality as the survey ship that, in 1831, carried the young naturalist Charles Darwin to South America and beyond. The five-year voyage sharpened the thinking that would underpin his theory of evolution, no doubt aided by the 400-volume library that doubled as Darwin's cabin.

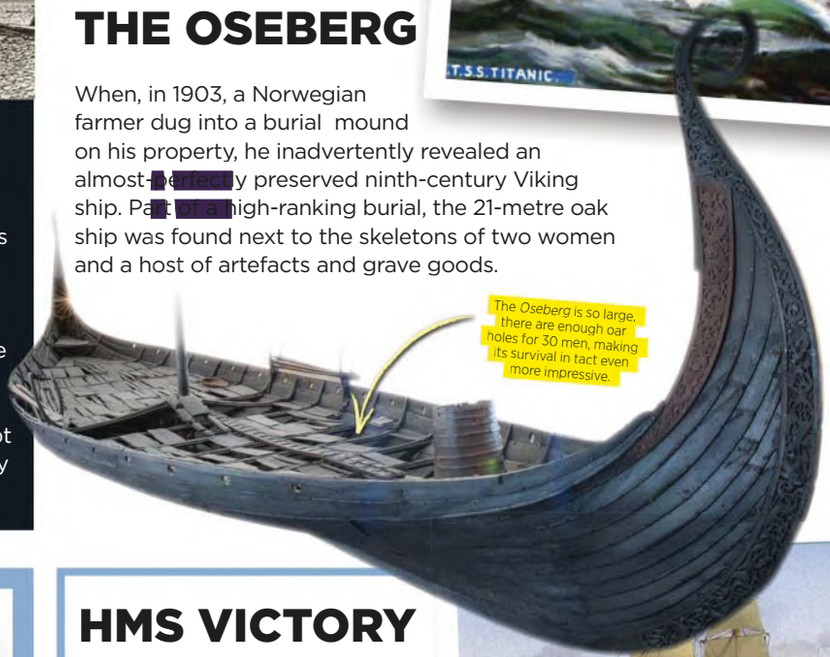
RMS TITANIC

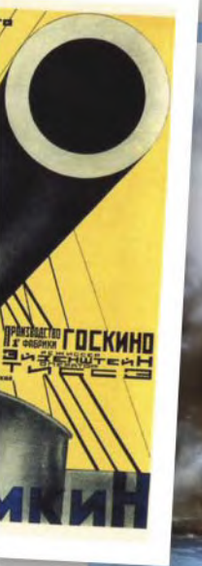
Quite possibly the most famous passenger ship in history, the *Titanic* – dubbed the 'unsinkable' – sank in April 1912 after colliding with an iceberg on her maiden voyage to New York City. It was a seriously high-spec vessel, boasting a library, Turkish bath, squash court and a barber shop, as well as an on-board telephone network and its own newspaper.



THE OSEBERG

When, in 1903, a Norwegian farmer dug into a burial mound on his property, he inadvertently revealed an almost-perfectly preserved ninth-century Viking ship. Part of a high-ranking burial, the 21-metre oak ship was found next to the skeletons of two women and a host of artefacts and grave goods.







USS ARIZONA

In 1941, 26 years after her launch, the fate that befell this battleship led the United States to enter World War II. She was bombed by Japanese torpedo bombers in the surprise early-morning attack at Pearl Harbor in Hawaii, claiming the lives of nearly 1,200 of her crew. The wreck of the *Arizona* still lies in situ as a memorial to the lost servicemen.

HMS VICTORY

Admiral Nelson's flagship at the Battle of Trafalgar is arguably the most celebrated vessel in the long history of the Royal Navy. Despite her high casualties – Nelson lost his life to a musket ball on her quarter-deck – she successfully returned from Trafalgar, later to be restored and opened as a museum.



THE HL HUNLEY

Submarine warfare might be thought to be a development of the 20th century, but the first sinking of a warship by a combat submarine actually dates back to the American Civil War. The *HL Hunley* was a Confederate vessel which, in 1864, torpedoed USS *Houstatonic*. But the *Hunley* never made it back to base, sinking in unexplained circumstances.



WHAT DO YOU THINK?

The *Santa Maria*, *Queen Anne's Revenge*, HMS *Hood* – what other famous ships did we miss out?

Email: **editor@historyrevealed.com**



BATTLEFIELD
PEGASUS BRIDGE, 6 JUNE 1944

BATTLE CONTEXT

Who
British D Company 2nd Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry. Six platoons plus 30 Royal Engineers and men from B Company

Total 180 men in six gliders

Germans: Elements of 716 Infantry Division and 21 Panzer Division

When
6 June 1944

Where
Bénouville, Normandy

Why
British bid to capture strategic bridges over Caen Canal and River Orne

Outcome
Both bridges successfully captured by the British

Losses
British 2 killed, 14 wounded
Germans unknown, but heavier

ADVANTAGE POINT
The key advantage of using gliders was that each one could set a **body of airborne troops** down in one place, whereas **paratroopers** would be scattered by the wind and lose time while regrouping.



GO TIME
This reconstructed image shows Major Howard's men rushing to the bridge, leaving their crash-landed gliders behind

Assault from the sky

The capture of the bridges over the Caen Canal and the River Orne were a crucial part of the Allied plans for D-Day. **Julian Humphrys** tells the story of one of World War II's most daring operations...

The patrol had started as usual for young Private Helmut Romer, one of the two German sentries tasked with keeping watch over the Caen Canal bridge at Bénouville that night. True, the Allied bombing was heavy, and true, he had just heard a loud crash but, assuming it was simply debris from a plane, he carried on. But when he turned to walk back across the bridge he was faced with a terrifying sight – 20 screaming soldiers rushing towards him. It was just after midnight on 6 June 1944 and the Allied invasion of Normandy had begun.

NEED FOR SPEED

Romer's bridge, and a second one over the nearby River Orne, would be crucial links between the troops landing on the D-Day beaches and the airborne division landing further east, so it was essential for the British to capture them intact. They knew that, if the Germans realised they were planning to take the bridges, they would destroy them, so speed was of the essence. A parachute drop was out of the question, as the soldiers would end up widely scattered, and it would take too long for them to assemble and attack. Instead, it was decided to land the troops as near to the bridges as possible using gliders.

The men of D Company of the 2nd Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry, under the command of Major John Howard, had been chosen to be those troops.

42
The number of practice landings made by the glider pilots in England to train for the operation

Late on 5 June, six Halifax bombers took off from RAF Tarrant Rushton, Dorset. Each one towed a Horsa glider carrying a platoon of Howard's soldiers (23 men) and five Royal Engineers. Little over an hour later, the bombers were over the Normandy coast where they cast off their gliders and headed home. It was now down to the aviators of the Glider Pilot Regiment to bring down their flimsy aircraft as safely as they could and, crucially, as near as possible to the two bridges.

At 00:16 on 6 June, the first glider hit the ground, briefly bouncing in the air before noisily bumping along until it came to an abrupt halt. John Howard was in that glider and, like many of his men, he was dazed by the sheer force of the impact. He quickly regained his senses but, to his horror, found he couldn't see a thing – just pitch blackness. Howard briefly feared that the impact had blinded him, before he realised that the crash had merely forced his steel helmet down over his eyes. Pushing it up again, he looked out of the shattered glider and was amazed to see that its pilots, Staff Sergeants Wallwork and Ainsworth, had brought it down within just 45 metres from the pillbox guarding the bridge, with its nose poking through the barbed wire

ALAMY X1, MAIN IMAGE FROM THE PEGASUS AND ORNE BRIDGES BY NEIL BARBER/PEN AND SWORD BOOKS



PEGASUS BRIDGE, 6 JUNE 1944

defences. It had been a remarkable landing, one which Air Vice-Marshal Leigh-Mallory, the Allied Air Commander on D-Day, later described as "one of the most outstanding flying achievements of the war". Wallwork and Ainsworth had been catapulted out of the cockpit – Howard could hear Ainsworth groaning – but most of the platoon were unhurt and scrambled out of the glider.

RAISING HELL

The hours and hours of practice now paid off, as Howard's men sprang into action. Some hurled grenades into the pillbox, while the rest, led by Lieutenant Den Brotheridge, doubled across the bridge, heading straight towards the sentries. Private Romer was terrified, but he managed to pull out his Very pistol and fire a flare – sending a bright signal into the sky – and shout "Alarm!" As the Brits reached the far side of the bridge, all hell broke loose. Brotheridge had thrown a grenade into a machine-gun nest before being hit in the neck by a burst of fire. He died soon after, the first Allied soldier to be killed by enemy fire on D-Day.

Brotheridge's grenade had silenced one of the machine-gun positions, while another was taken out by Bren gunfire. By now, two more gliders had landed and, while the Royal Engineers checked the bridge was clear of explosives, one platoon cleared the German trenches on the east bank. A second platoon crossed the bridge, hurling grenades and spraying enemy positions with submachine guns, to help Brotheridge's men put an end to the German resistance. All three platoon commanders at the canal had been killed or wounded, but the bridge was safely in British hands.

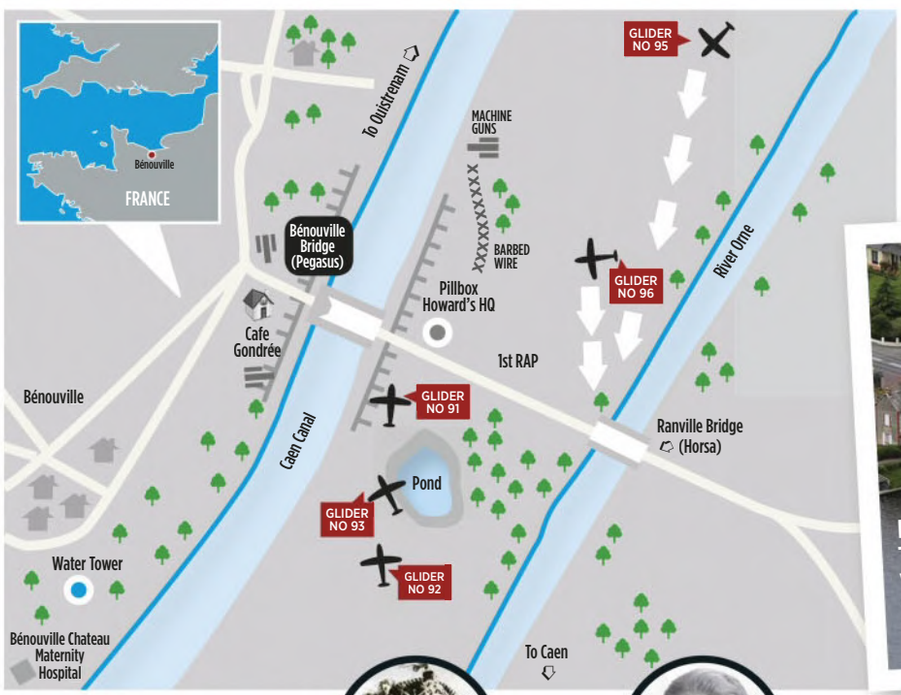
At the command post he'd set up near the canal bridge, Howard

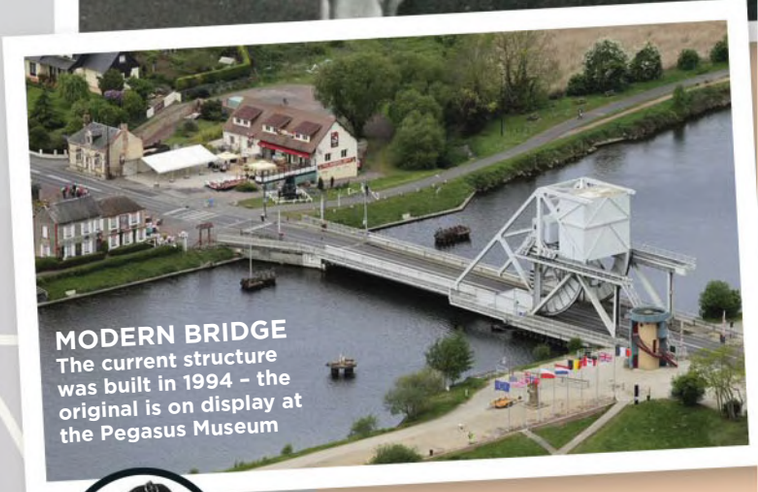


TAKE OFF IN TOW
A Halifax bomber tows a Horsa glider into the air at RAF Tarrant Rushton, Dorset, just as on 5 June 1944



CANAL BRIDGE
The bridge was rushed by the men of Lieutenant Brotheridge's platoon.





MODERN BRIDGE
The current structure was built in 1994 – the original is on display at the Pegasus Museum

KEY PLAYERS

Three of the assault team who made a vital contribution to the success of the operation...



MAJOR JOHN HOWARD
The 31-year-old in command of the assault party. In November 1944, he was on leave when he was involved in a serious road accident; his injuries prevented him from returning to the fighting.



LIEUTENANT HERBERT DENHAM BROTHERIDGE
Commander of the troops in Howard's glider, 29-year-old 'Den' was the first Allied soldier to be killed in combat on D-Day. His wife was eight months pregnant at the time.



STAFF SERGEANT JIM WALLWORK
One of the two pilots in Howard's glider. Aged 24, he had already flown a glider in the invasion of Sicily in 1943 and would do so again both at Arnhem and at the crossing of the Rhine.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS

Heavy weapons weren't an option for the troops in the gliders. Their equipment had to be lightweight and portable. But, what they did have, they used to devastating effect.



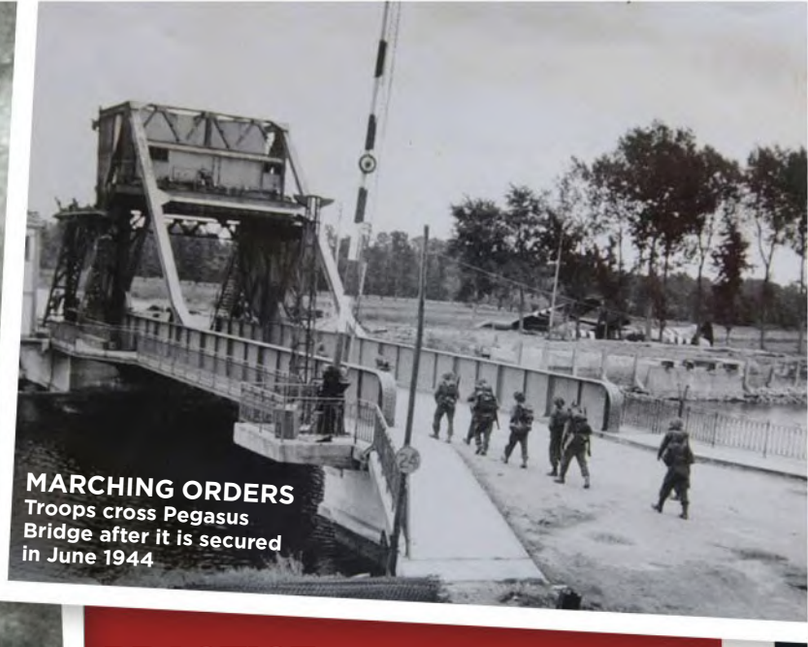
ALAMY X7, REX X1, GETTY X2, PA X1, IWM X1, MAJOR JOHN HOWARD FROM THE PEGASUS DIARIES BY JOHN HOWARD & PENNY BATES/PEN AND SWORD BOOKS

PERFECT LANDINGS
The three gliders where they touched down, just metres from the bridge (seen bottom left)

GLIDER NO 92
Lieutenant Wood's platoon, who cleared the trenches east of the canal, flew in on this plane.

GLIDER NO 93
Lieutenant Smith's platoon landed here. Private Geenhalgh was thrown unconscious into the pond next to it and drowned.

GLIDER NO 91
This aircraft carried Lieutenant Brotheridge's platoon together with Major Howard.



MARCHING ORDERS
Troops cross Pegasus Bridge after it is secured in June 1944

PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT

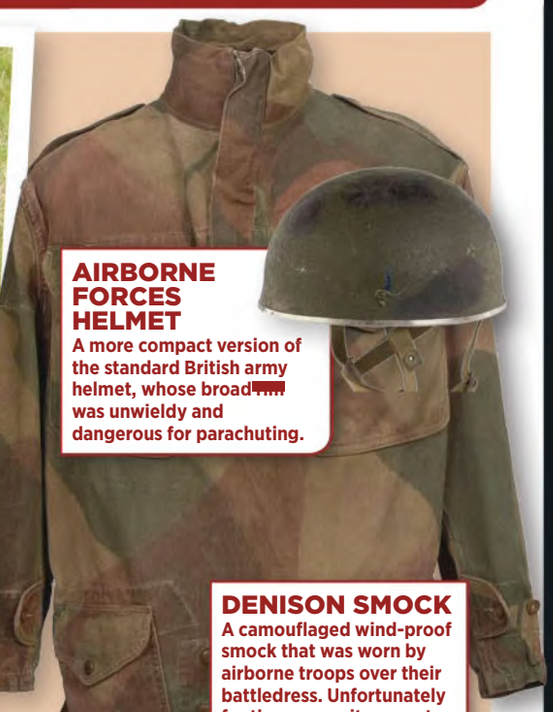
While the pilots of the gliders practiced precision landings in Wiltshire, Howard's men mounted mock attacks on two of the Countess Wear bridges near Exeter, which were very similar to the bridges that were actually going to be assaulted. Because he couldn't be sure how many gliders would make it to the bridges, Howard ensured that each of his six platoons practiced every aspect of the assault so that no matter who landed where, they would all know what to do. The need for secrecy meant that, for most of the training period, Howard was the only one who knew what the final destination would be. It wasn't until they were in their transit camp at the end of May that the men were shown a detailed model of the target, and his men found out they were headed for Normandy.



PIAT (PROJECTOR, INFANTRY, ANTI-TANK)
The PIAT was the British handheld anti-tank weapon. Pulling the trigger released a spring, which sent a metal rod into the rear of a powerful bomb. This set off a charge in the explosive and sent it soaring towards the target.

TWO-INCH MORTAR
A light, portable weapon used to lob explosives or smoke bombs into the air and down onto a target.





AIRBORNE FORCES HELMET
A more compact version of the standard British army helmet, whose broad [redacted] was unwieldy and dangerous for parachuting.

PEGASUS PATCH
Pegasus Bridge was named after the badge of the British 6th Airborne Division – Pegasus, the famous winged horse from Greek mythology.





BREN GUN
The standard British light machine gun, its ammunition clips held 28-30 rounds which could be fired at a rate of 500 rounds a minute.

DENISON SMOCK
A camouflaged wind-proof smock that was worn by airborne troops over their battledress. Unfortunately for the wearer, it was not fully waterproof.

STEN GUN
This simple submachine gun was manufactured in huge numbers during the war. It could either fire single shots or bursts of bullets and was ideal for use at close quarters or in confined spaces.



soon received more good news. The bridge across the River Orne had also been captured. One of the three gliders detailed to attack it had come down several miles away, but the glider carrying Lieutenant Dennis Fox's platoon had made an almost perfect landing. Sergeant Charles Thornton then sent a well-aimed mortar round soaring into one of the bridge's machine-gun positions, and the Germans swiftly made themselves scarce. Fox's men captured it without firing a shot. Meanwhile, the third glider had landed about half a mile away. Expecting a hard battle, its men rushed to the bridge, only to find Fox's platoon calmly waiting for them. Both bridges had been captured in just ten minutes.

While Corporal Tappenden, Howard's radio operator, repeatedly transmitted the code words 'Ham' and 'Jam' to signify the capture of both bridges, Howard ordered Fox's platoon to join the others at the canal bridge, ready to face an expected German counter-attack from Bénouville. In fact, the first German approach came from the other direction. Major Schmidt, commander of the garrison at the bridges, had been away from his post, and he was now hurrying back to base in his car. The British opened fire, and sent Schmidt's vehicle crashing into a ditch. After dragging out its occupants the men searched the car and found damning evidence of what Schmidt had been up to – empty wine bottles, dirty plates, stockings and lingerie!

156
The number, in thousands, of Allied troops that landed in Normandy on D-Day

COUNTER MOVE

At 00:50, Howard's men heard the welcome sound of approaching aircraft. An armada of British planes was flying over to drop paratroopers east of the Orne. Some of these men, the 7th Parachute Battalion, were due to take over the positions at the bridges, but high winds and poor visibility meant they were widely scattered when they landed, and they didn't arrive for some time. Howard's men were still on their own when, at about 01:30, they heard an ominous clanking on the far side of Bénouville. German tanks were on their way. But by now Fox's platoon was in position beyond the cafe, across the bridge, and the redoubtable Sergeant Thornton was lying in wait with a PIAT (Projector, Infantry, Anti-Tank) weapon. When the first vehicle, an armoured half-track, was almost level with him, he fired. A direct hit, the half-track exploded and the Germans abandoned their counter-attack.

Eventually, about 200 British paratroopers arrived – minus their heavy weapons – and moved into Bénouville where they were involved in heavy fighting for the rest of the night and early that morning. The Germans sent two gunboats down the canal from the coast. They began shooting at the bridge but, when one was disabled by a PIAT shot, the other rapidly turned back.

Desperate to destroy the bridges, the Germans tried again. This time a fighter bomber flew over and dropped a bomb on the canal bridge, but it failed to blow. They even sent two frogmen up the canal to the bridge but they were spotted and dealt with.

At about 12:00, the men at the bridge heard an unmistakable sound coming from the direction of the coast: bagpipes. It was Brigadier Simon Fraser, Lord Lovat and his piper Bill Millin at the head of the British commandos, who had landed on Sword Beach earlier that morning. German snipers were still active in the area and the commandos suffered casualties as they hurried across to link up with the 6th Airborne Division east of the Orne.

As time went on, more and more reinforcements arrived from the beaches and, that night, 24 hours after landing in Normandy, D Company left the bridges and joined up with the rest of their battalion at the nearby village of Ranville. They had done their job brilliantly.

"They heard an ominous clanking... German tanks were on the way"



CAFÉ LIBERTÉ!
The first French building to be liberated on D-Day – the Café Gondrée – still stands

FIRST TO BE FREED



VICTORY DRINK
Georges Gondrée shares a toast with two of the assault team

West of the Caen Canal, right next to the bridge, stands a cafe. Shortly after midnight on 6 June, its proprietor Georges Gondrée and his wife were woken up by an enormous crash as first glider landed. The Gondrées took shelter in the cellar with their two daughters but, when they ventured upstairs, they realised to their delight that the language they were hearing was English. The men of Den Brotheridge's platoon were 'digging in' in the garden. The Gondrées' cafe had become the first building in France to be liberated. The British later established a medical post there and, at daybreak, Georges Gondrée unearthed and popped some champagne, which he'd buried in 1940 to prevent the Germans from taking it. "Half the Company want to report sick!" observed Howard.

WHAT HAPPENED NEXT?

The new territory was put into immediate use...

The capture of the two bridges enabled British airborne troops, who landed east of the River Orne, to link up with the ground troops who had landed on D-Day and were advancing up the west bank of the Caen Canal. The eastern flank of the Allied bridgehead was now secure.

It had been a model operation, achieved with just 2 men killed and 14 wounded but if there was any elation on the part of Howard's men, it was short lived. The next day, the company was embroiled in heavy fighting in the nearby village of Escoville and suffered nearly 60 casualties.

GET HOOKED

Find out more about the battle and those involved

ON SCREEN

The capture of the bridges is vividly portrayed in the 1962 classic film *The Longest Day*. Richard Todd, who plays Major Howard, actually parachuted into Normandy on D-Day.

PRESS ASSOCIATION X2

Classic Castles

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MOODY RIVER
The Río Tiputini – whose waters eventually flow into the Amazon – meanders through Yasuni National Park in Ecuador's Francisco de Orellana Province

MASTER OF THE AMAZON

In 1541, a Spanish conquistador set out in search of cinnamon, and ended up navigating the world's mightiest river, the Amazon. **Pat Kinsella** meets history's greatest accidental explorer, Francisco de Orellana...

ALAMY X1, ART ARCHIVE X1



"We reached a state of privation so great that we were eating nothing but leather, **belts and soles of shoes, cooked with certain herbs**."

Friar Gaspar de Carvajal



GREAT ADVENTURES
FRANCISCO DE ORELLANA

When Francisco de Orellana floated off down the Río Napo in December 1541, he was just trying to find food for a starving expedition party, fruitlessly searching for the mythical *País de la Canela*, 'country of cinnamon', in the foothills of the Andes, somewhere east of Quito. The current caught him, though, and by the time he popped out the other side of the continent eight months later, he'd led the first-known descent of the biggest waterway on Earth. It remains, perhaps, the most impressive feat of accidental adventuring in history.

ILLUSTRATION: DAWN COOPER

WELCOME TO THE JUNGLE

A blood relation of Francisco Pizarro, the man who toppled the Empire of the Incas, Francisco de Orellana arrived in Peru in 1533. The 22-year-old *hidalgo*, or 'nobleman', took part in decisive battles during the Spanish conquest of the country, seeing action at Trujillo and Cuzco, and losing an eye in the process.

After helping the Pizarro brothers defeat the forces of rival conquistador Diego Almagro at the Battle of Las Salinas, Lima, in 1538, Orellana was made Captain-General and sent off to conquer the coastal province of La Culata, where he established the city of Guayaquil.

When Gonzalo Pizarro became Governor of Quito in 1539, he was tasked with exploring lands to the east to search for the cinnamon trees rumoured to exist there, and Orellana opted to join him. As with all conquistador missions, the pursuit of gold was also high on the agenda.

Pizarro departed Quito in February 1541 (1 on map), with an enormous expeditionary force containing over 200 Spaniards, 4,000 *indígenas* (indigenous peoples) and thousands of horses, dogs, llamas and pigs, but no Orellana, who'd travelled to Guayaquil to recruit more men. Arriving back in Quito to discover Pizarro had left without him, Orellana set off into the mountains in pursuit, along with 23 soldiers. This small group survived repeated attacks from hostile tribes, finally catching the main party in Zumaco (2), 110 miles from Quito, where Orellana was appointed Lieutenant-General, effectively second-in-command.

Continuing east, they reached the Río Coca, roughly 250 miles from Quito, which led to the Río Napo. The going was tough and already hundreds of men had either deserted or died in the freezing passes of the Andes.

Ten months into the expedition the party was much reduced in size, but no faster moving, and they were struggling. Constantly under attack, they'd eaten the pigs and most of the dogs, and supplies were desperately low. A boat was built, named the *San Pedro*, but progress remained slow, with most men still having to negotiate the thickly forested riverbanks on horseback and foot.

Pizarro habitually tortured natives he encountered en route, to extract information about the location of



SPICE SEEKERS
Gonzalo Pizarro and his men set off in search of cinnamon in 1541



TALES OF THE RIVER

Orellana's report came to be viewed with scepticism, when later explorers saw no evidence of the communities he had described. In recent years, however, deforestation has revealed evidence of vast man-made structures and it is now known that up to 8 million people may have been in the region in 1500, before European diseases decimated the population. What is less understood, is why the Spaniards had so little success fishing that they ended up eating their shoes.





1 QUITO
February 1541
Conquistador Gonzalo Pizarro embarks on the expedition, taking with him over 4,200 men. Francisco de Orellana leaves with a smaller party shortly afterwards.

2 ZUMACO
March 1541
Orellana meets up with the main party and is appointed Lieutenant-General, second-in-command to Pizarro.

5 RÍO MARAÑÓN CONFLUENCE
11 February 1542
Orellana and his men begin their descent of the Amazon proper.

6 APARIA
26 February 1542
Orellana is granted an audience with local chief, Aparia the Great. The Spaniards stay here for almost two months, building a second boat, *The Victoria*.

7 RÍO NEGRO
3 June 1542
Having survived various skirmishes with the Machiparo and Omagua people, Orellana's party reaches the confluence with the Río Negro.

cinnamon, gold and resources. One captured chief, Delicola, divulged that food and a rich civilisation lay further east, up a confluence in the river (thought to be Río Aguarico).

By Christmas, with the spectre of starvation looming, Orellana proposed that he take a small advance party ahead to locate this food and bring it back. Pizarro agreed and, on Boxing Day 1541, Orellana left with 59 men (57 Spaniards and two unnamed African slaves), several canoes (taken from locals), and a large proportion of the expedition's weapons, including *arquebuses* (a form of rudimentary rifle) and crossbows (3). He told Pizarro he'd be back in 12 days. The two never met again.

35
The number of days it took Orellana's expedition party to build a new boat

GOING WITH THE FLOW

After surviving a crash on the first day, Orellana's party stuck to the middle of the river, where the flow was fastest. If they saw the Aguarico confluence, they didn't take it and, within a week, it became obvious that a return trip, against the current, would be incredibly hard – even if they did find food, which remained elusive. The men were reduced to eating their shoes, while some experimented with plants that made them sick.

But, on 1 January 1542, drums were heard. Two days later, people were spotted. The natives, astonished at the arrival of bearded aliens, armed with gleaming swords, fled their settlement, and the expedition party gorged on the food left in the village, which they called Imara (4).

Orellana, a gifted linguist, had learned some local dialect from Delicola, and when the inhabitants slowly returned, he negotiated with them – a strikingly different approach to Pizarro's policies of violence, and one that undoubtedly saved many lives.

By now, the advance party was 700 miles downstream from where they'd left Pizarro. In ten days they'd travelled three times further than the main expedition had managed in the previous ten months. They'd found food, but no one was willing to travel back up the river.

THE KEY PLAYERS

FRANCISCO DE ORELLANA



The Spanish conquistador who led the first-known descent of the Amazon. He founded the city of Guayaquil in Ecuador. Died during a second Amazon trip.

FRANCISCO PIZARRO



The Spanish conquistador who brought down the Inca Empire, and went on to become Governor of Peru and founder of Lima. He was assassinated in 1541.

GONZALO PIZARRO

Half-brother of Francisco Pizarro and Governor of Quito, he led the cinnamon expedition. By the time he escaped the jungle, his brother Francisco had been killed and Peru was in chaos. He later rebelled against his king and was beheaded.

FRIAR GASPAR DE CARVAJAL

The expedition chaplain, who chronicled the trip in his snappily titled *Account of the recent discovery of the famous grand river which was discovered by great good fortune by Captain Francisco de Orellana*.

ALAMY X1, ART ARCHIVE X1, GETTY X1, ISTOCK X1, TOPFOTO X1



Conscious of how it would look if he simply abandoned his leader – and painfully aware of how ruthless the Pizarro brothers could be – the ever-astute Orellana got his men to sign a document imploring him not to force them into a suicidal upstream journey. In reality, a return trip was effectively impossible anyway. It would take weeks, if not months, by which stage Pizarro and his men would either be dead or gone.

Instead, they ate themselves back into good health and built a forge for making nails, planning to construct a second, bigger boat. The locals happily hosted the Spaniards for a time, but eventually they outstayed their welcome. To avoid conflict, Orellana's party left on 2 February, before the boat had been built.

IN DEEP WATER

Within nine days they reached the confluence with the Río Marañón (5), the beginning of the Amazon proper. Orellana, who continued to converse with locals, discovered they'd entered the realm of Aparia the Great. Relations remained friendly, with food forthcoming from encounters, usually in exchange for Spanish trinkets.

80
The number of men Pizarro brought back to Quito, having left with over 4,200

On 26 February, the group was met by canoes bearing food and guided to a large settlement full of warriors. Initially Orellana thought they'd been led into a trap, but, after a standoff, he met with local chief Aparia the Great (6).

The Spaniards stayed in this village, which they called Aparia, long enough to build a second boat, a larger brigantine named *The Victoria*. During feasts of roasted manatee and fowls, their hosts warned of the dangers that awaited in the territories of the fierce Machiparo and Omagua people, and of the ferocious Coniupuyara (grand mistresses), who would kill them all.

Leaving Aparia on 24 April, the party followed the upper Amazon (the Río Solimões) where they were indeed attacked by Machiparo warriors in canoes. Pitched battles were fought as the Spaniards invaded villages and pinched food, with 18 being wounded and one killed in the skirmishes that continued for several days along the river.

Fighting their way out of Machiparo territory, they quickly entered the Omagua's realm, where yet another hostile reception awaited. This time, Orellana responded with a considerable display of force, occupying an entire village to give his men the time needed to recover. By 16 May, his party was ready to continue, and 18 days later they met the confluence of another big, deep, dark river, which Orellana called the Río Negro (7) – a name that's endured.

News of the approaching Spaniards spread along the river like wildfire. In one spot, human heads were nailed to gibbets to warn them off and, in another instance, a village appeared deserted but warriors lay waiting in the wings. Orellana, a canny leader, deftly sidestepped these attempted ambushes.

The Paguana people they encountered next were more peaceful, and the increasing width of the river made it easier to avoid trouble by simply switching sides. But there was no escaping the most famous conflict of the entire trip, when they finally met the mysterious Amazons.

KILLER QUEENS

Around the confluence of the Madeira, talk among locals had turned again to a group of ferocious female warriors, and soon the Spaniards found these fighters waiting for them in the flesh (8). As described by Friar de Carvajal, the expedition chaplain: "These women are very white and tall, and have hair very long and braided and wound around the head, and they are very robust and go about naked [but] with their privy parts covered, with their bows and arrows in their hands, doing as much fighting as ten Indian men."

In the ensuing conflict, several Spaniards were injured,



RICH CONTINENT
RIGHT: **Pizarro's men were always on the lookout for Peruvian gold – such as was used to make this bird plate from c1400-1533 – as well as spices**
BELOW: **A 1558 map of South America shows the various settlements along the Amazon**

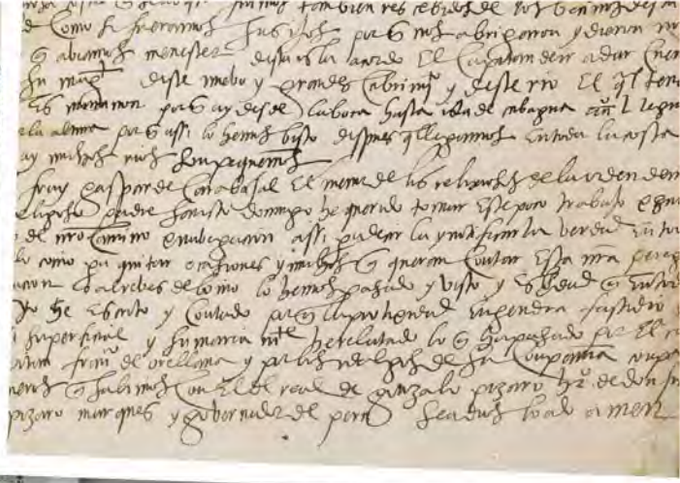


BAD REPUTATIONS
LEFT: **A humble bust of Francisco de Orellana, from the explorer's hometown of Trujillo in Spain**
MAIN: **The Amazon warriors unleash their trademark aggression, attacking a rival tribe**

ALAMY X2, BRIDGEMAN IMAGES X1, SUPERSTOCK X2, TOPFOTO X1







SURVIVOR STORY
LEFT: **Despite the caption on this 19th-century image, Orellana was primarily in search of food for the starving party**
ABOVE: **Friar De Carvajal's handwritten account of the accidental journey**

including the Friar, and their boats were left looking like porcupines, punctured by hundreds of arrows. Men reportedly fought alongside the female combatants, and if any dared to retreat, they were clubbed to death by the women behind them. Eventually, however, the superior firepower of the Spanish won the day and several Amazons were killed during the action.

Finally, after stopping for 18 days to repair the boats, Orellana's party were disgorged from the mouth of the river into the arms of the Atlantic on 24 August 1542 (9). On the open ocean, making for Guiana, the two boats were briefly separated until being reunited on Cubagua Island, off the coast of Venezuela (10).

After suffering many privations, Pizarro managed to extricate himself and a few surviving members of his expedition party from the jungle. He was, of course, incandescently furious at his Lieutenant's failure to return, and Orellana's reputation was savaged in Spain and its New World colonies.

Orellana had proved that the planet's biggest river was navigable for its entire length, however, and the mighty waterway temporarily bore his name. He'd be better-known today if his storytelling hadn't got the better of him. His tales of ferocious females proved too beguiling and, because the Spaniards had referred to these soldiers as 'Amazons' from the moment they'd heard of them, the river took its final name from the women warriors of Greek mythology.

GET HOOKED

BOOK

Read the excellent *River of Darkness: Francisco Orellana's Legendary Voyage of Death and Discovery Down the Amazon* (2011) by Buddy Levy.

TRAVEL

Travel the Amazon on a small boat and experience the river as Orellana and his men did – book a trip from the jungle city of Iquitos.

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Are any other accidental explorers worthy of the history books?

Email: editor@historyrevealed.com

Amazing Grace

Jonny Wilkes meets the real William Wilberforce – the man who tirelessly pursued an end to the British slave trade



MAN OF THE ANIMALS
Amazing Grace opens with Wilberforce berating two farmers for flogging a black horse. This may seem a heavy-handed metaphor, but **Wilberforce was a lover of animals** and helped found the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (now the RSPCA).



"No matter how loud you shout, you will not drown out the voice of the people."

MAIN: William Wilberforce unfurls a petition on the floor of Parliament. Over the years, hundreds of similar petitions were signed by thousands of men and women from all social backgrounds – in what is now considered one of the first grassroots campaigns
LEFT: Wilberforce was a much-admired figure in society for his wit, charisma and generosity. In one year, he gave away more than his annual income

There is a scene in *Amazing Grace* that defines Ioan Gruffudd's passionate abolitionist William Wilberforce. It comes early in his parliamentary career when, frustrated by pro-slavery politicians, Wilberforce stands on a table and sings the film's titular hymn, leaving his once-boisterous audience silent as the moving melody and lyrics resonate. The only slight problem is that this could not have happened. While the words of *Amazing Grace* were written by preacher and former slave ship captain John Newton in the early 1770s, they weren't set to the well-known music until 1835 – two years after Wilberforce's death.

This symbolises just how much of Wilberforce's legacy has been glorified. Thanks in part to this film, he is now seen as the urbane, witty and morally driven radical who single-handedly achieved the Slave Trade Act of 1807, which abolished the trade in the British Empire. In truth, he was more conservative than liberal in some areas, he struggled to be effective in Parliament and was uneasy with the anti-slavery campaign turning into a mass-scale popular movement. Wilberforce was, undeniably, a crucial figure as the campaign's political spokesperson, but memoirs written by his sons following his death bolstered his role, while downplaying the work of others.

THE YOUNG ONES

It was while studying at Cambridge that Wilberforce was persuaded to pursue a seat in Parliament by his close friend and future Prime Minister, William Pitt (the Younger). Far from the saintly character of *Amazing Grace*, Wilberforce was a gambler, drinker and card player. But he was a conscientious reformer at heart and a gifted orator so, in 1780, when both were 21, Wilberforce and Pitt entered the House of Commons. From the beginning, Wilberforce was a strong, independent voice, and this only increased when, from 1784–85, he underwent a conversion to Evangelical Christianity. He had been brought up with religion, but this was when he wholly embraced his faith, lamenting his past hedonism and committing his life to God – so much so, he battled over whether he should stay in Parliament or enter the Church.

It was a moral quandary that caused him deep anxiety and stress. Only after seeking guidance from Pitt and the preacher Newton did Wilberforce decide to remain in politics with a new resolve steeped in his Christianity. He spoke out against sins such as drinking, swearing and lewdness, and helped found the Church Missionary Society, although his conservatism also saw him fight against the expansion of the vote and the creation of unions. His evangelism, however, was instrumental in bringing him to the attention of the abolitionists.

THE FACTS
Release date: 2006
Director: Michael Apted
Cast: Ioan Gruffudd, Benedict Cumberbatch, Romola Garai, Rufus Sewell, Youssou N'Dour, Albert Finney

The movement to abolish the slave trade began years earlier but Wilberforce became involved in 1786, when he was approached with the suggestion of introducing a bill to Parliament. Along with his cousin Henry Thornton, he met with leading abolitionists, but it was the Deacon Thomas Clarkson who had the greatest effect on him. The two met weekly to examine the streams of evidence of the slave trade's atrocities, which had been collected by Clarkson. In *Amazing Grace*, Clarkson is a drinking, sardonic campaigner, while Wilberforce is the leader and brains. In reality, however, they were true partners, and their collaboration would last nearly

ALAMY X2, KOBAL X1, MOVIE STILLS X1

“Every time Wilberforce brought a bill forward, morality and compassion were trampled by selfishness and greed.”

WILBER THE WHALE

Wilberforce was a skilled speech-maker. Author James Boswell described his style: “I saw what seemed a mere shrimp upon the table, but as I listened, he grew and grew, **until the shrimp became a whale**”.





“We’re too young to realise certain things are impossible, which is why we will do them anyway.”

ABOVE: Benedict Cumberbatch and Ioan Gruffudd as Prime Minister William Pitt and William Wilberforce
LEFT: Wilberforce was allegedly persuaded to become the spokesperson of the abolitionist movement after speaking to his friend and Prime Minister, Pitt the Younger, under a large oak tree in Pitt’s estate in Kent



"Take them on. Blow their dirty, filthy ships out of the water!"

ABOVE LEFT: The Anti-Slavery Society logo, designed by the pottery company Wedgwood – its owner was a friend of Thomas Clarkson and an abolitionist
ABOVE CENTRE: Sales posters such as this revealed the horrors of slavery
ABOVE RIGHT: When published in 1788, the diagram of conditions on the slave ship *Brookes* horrified the country
FAR LEFT: A model of the *Brookes* was made for Wilberforce to use in Parliament
LEFT: As part of a boycott of sugar grown on slave plantations, special bowls were made promoting East India sugar

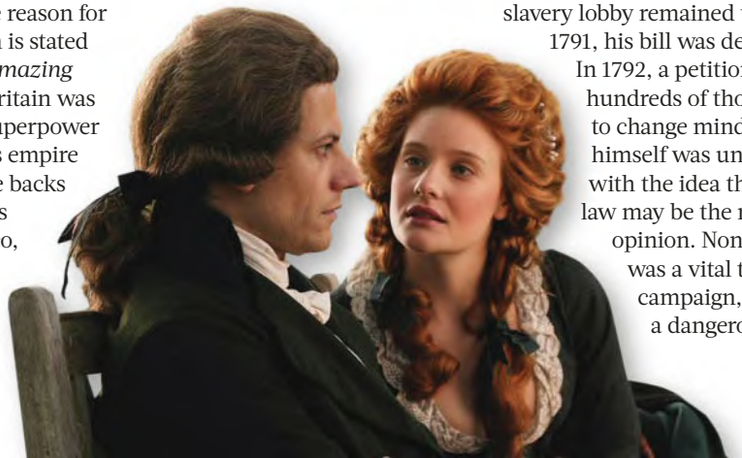
50 years. While Wilberforce advocated abolition in Parliament, it was Clarkson who fostered a national movement. Through the Society for Effecting the Abolition of the Slave Trade (aka the Anti-Slavery Society) the horrors of slavery were brought to public attention on an unprecedented level. Pamphlets were written, books by former slaves such as Olaudah Equiano sold in the thousands, petitions were signed and a boycott of slave-grown sugar in tea was organised (although Wilberforce opposed it). They also had a logo designed by renowned pottery-maker Wedgwood – the now-famous image of a kneeling slave and the words, "Am I not a man and a brother?"

STRONG OPPOSITION

As abolitionists fought across the country, Wilberforce agreed to be the voice of the campaign in Parliament. In 1789, he gave a speech describing a slave ship's Atlantic voyage and warning MPs, "Having heard all of this, you may choose to look the other way but you can never say that you did not know". Despite the brilliance of his speech, many MPs chose to look the other way. That year, Wilberforce introduced 12 unsuccessful resolutions. The reason for such opposition is stated at the start of *Amazing Grace*: "Great Britain was the mightiest superpower on Earth and its empire was built on the backs of slaves". Slaves grew the tobacco, sugar and cotton that amounted to the vast majority of Britain's income, and slave ships created business in British ports. There were plenty of MPs who wanted, and needed, Wilberforce to fail.

Every time the abolitionist brought a bill forward, morality and compassion were trampled by selfishness and greed. He gained a useful ally in politician Charles James Fox, who usually opposed Wilberforce and Pitt, but the pro-slavery lobby remained too strong. In 1791, his bill was defeated 163-88.

In 1792, a petition signed by hundreds of thousands failed to change minds – Wilberforce himself was uncomfortable with the idea that changes in law may be the result of public opinion. Nonetheless, it was a vital tool in the campaign, especially after a dangerous compromise



A weary William Wilberforce was inspired to carry on his fight for abolition when he met Barbara Ann Spooner in 1797

ART ARCHIVE X1, ALAMY X1, BRIDGEMAN IMAGES X3, GETTY X1, KOBAL X3

“I once was lost but now am found. Was blind, but now I see.”

“Do you intend to use your beautiful voice to praise the Lord, or change the world?”

LEFT: Wilberforce is led through the hold of a slave ship by former slave Olaudah Equiano (played by Youssou N’Dour). Equiano’s autobiography was influential in the eventual passage of the Slave Trade Act in 1807
BELOW: In 1840, an elderly Thomas Clarkson addresses 500 members of the Anti-Slavery Society conference – despite failing eyesight, he is the key speaker at the conference, arguing for the end of global slavery



SHIP SHAPE
The *Brookes* could reportedly hold 454 slaves on its journeys from Africa to Jamaica. Each person was given a space of **1.5-1.8 metres long by 0.36-0.41 metres wide**. This diagram became a powerful propaganda tool.





LOST LEGACY
When Wilberforce’s sons wrote a biography of their father’s work, the **role of Clarkson was overshadowed**. He wrote his own memoir in return, forcing Wilberforce’s sons to apologise.

was advocated by Home Secretary Henry Dundas, calling for a gradual abolition, which could be delayed indefinitely. Wilberforce pushed for abolition on his terms, but he introduced bills at inopportune moments, so they were often ignored or stalled. Still, he got close in 1793, when he was defeated by eight votes. That same month, however, war was declared with France.

DOWN, NOT OUT

Talk of ending a highly lucrative trade during wartime suddenly became seditious, and it remained that way for ten years. During this time, Wilberforce continued to introduce bills – his 1796 attempt very nearly passed, but was defeated by four nays after some of his supporters were tempted away from Parliament on the night of the vote with free tickets to the opera. It was a crushing blow, compounded by his worsening addiction to laudanum – which he was taking for chronic stomach pains. It could have been the end of his campaigning, were it not for the encouragement of 21-year-old Barbara Ann Spooner. After first meeting on 15 April 1797, the pair were engaged eight days later and married a month after that.

Then the tide turned in the early years of the 19th century. As Napoleon reintroduced slavery to French colonies, and several major slave revolts occurred, abolition became the topic du jour. Even the deaths of Pitt and Fox and the defeat of Wilberforce’s 1805 bill, the 11th in 15 years, couldn’t halt the movement. In 1807, the new Prime Minister, Lord Grenville, pushed through one last bill. It was comfortably passed in the Commons on 23 February, by 283 votes to 16 – tears ran down Wilberforce’s face. After 20 years of work, frustrations, setbacks and prejudice, the slave trade in the British Empire would be no more.

And that is where *Amazing Grace* concludes, with Wilberforce humbly accepting the ovation of the Commons and the kind words of Fox (which was quite an achievement as, in the real world, Fox died a year earlier). The film’s conclusion is sudden – the drama judders to a halt, and the payoff seems rather unsatisfactory. But that’s actually apt. The year 1807 in no way marked the immediate death of slavery worldwide. Wilberforce had long retired when the Slavery Abolition Act of 1833 ultimately ended slavery in the British Empire. He almost didn’t even live to see it – he died three days after the bill was passed.

WHAT DO YOU THINK?
To what extent was William Wilberforce the saintly figure as depicted in *Amazing Grace*?
Email: editor@historyrevealed.com

Ones to watch: The slave trade

Roots (Alex Haley, 1977) Based on Haley’s own family history, this powerful epic tells the harrowing experiences of slaves in America.

12 Years a Slave (Steve McQueen, 2013) Chiwetel Ejiofor gives a profoundly moving performance as Solomon Northup – the free black American captured and sold into slavery.

Belle (Amma Asante, 2013) Dido is a wealthy woman of mixed race in 18th-century England. Facing prejudice, her life changes when she hears of the *Zong*, a slave ship whose ‘cargo’ is thrown overboard.



Gugu Mbatha-Raw shines as Dido in *Belle* (2013)

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Q&A

YOU ASK, WE ANSWER

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OUR EXPERTS

EMILY BRAND
Historian, genealogist and author of *Mr Darcy's Guide to Courtship* (2013)



JULIAN HUMPHRYS
Development Officer for The Battlefields Trust and author



GREG JENNER
Horrible Histories consultant and author of *A Million Years in a Day* (published 2015)



SANDRA LAWRENCE
Writer and columnist specialising in British heritage subjects



RUPERT MATTHEWS
Author on a wide range of historical subjects, from ancient to modern



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Author and Senior Lecturer in Archaeology at Bournemouth University



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WHEN DID WOMEN START COMPETING IN THE OLYMPICS?

The original Olympic Games in Ancient Greece were all-male affairs and the introduction of the modern Games in 1896, held in Athens, saw no difference. At the very next Games four years later, however, women were able to take part, albeit in a limited capacity. Of the 997 athletes at the 1900 Games in Paris, just 22 were women, competing in five sports: tennis, sailing, croquet, equestrian and golf.

Throughout the 20th century, women's involvement in the Olympics increased. Since 1991, all new sports joining the programme are obliged to include women's events and London 2012 saw every participating country fielding female athletes for the first time. **SL**

An official poster for the 1900 Olympic Games shows a woman in fencing gear – although no women competed in the sport

DID YOU KNOW?

PUT YOUR HANDS TOGETHER

The oldest-known depiction of a handshake is a carving from the fifth century BC, but the gesture is far older. As the custom was unknown among American and Australian indigenous peoples, it probably started 15,000 years ago – when those cultures were cut off from Asia.

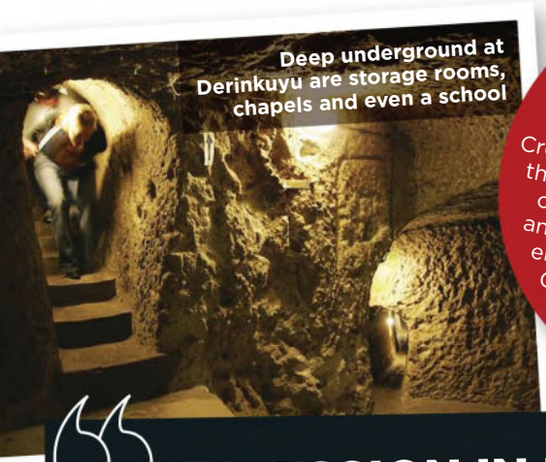
ALAMY X1, GETTY X1

6 the age, in days, of Mary, Queen of Scots when she became ruler of Scotland on the death of James V.

Have people ever lived **underground**?

The best example of possible subterranean living is an impressive system of tunnels and passageways in central Turkey. The precise origin of the underground city of Derinkuyu – which was rediscovered in the 1960s – as well as who dug the passages, and when, are unclear, but major excavation activity has suggested the city could be as old as the eighth century BC.

The multi-layered Derinkuyu reaches a depth of 85 metres and could shelter some 20,000 people. The passageways have been periodically modified, enlarged and extended with multiple areas for accommodation, storage and also defence. No written testimony exists explaining how the city was used, although it has been claimed that the tunnels were conceived as a combination of cold storage facilities and ancient underground bunker, protecting the population during times of invasion or internal strife. Few of the passageways and rooms have been investigated so our understanding of why the people of central Turkey spent so much time working underground is, to date, incomplete, which serves to make Derinkuyu even more alluring and mysterious. **MR**
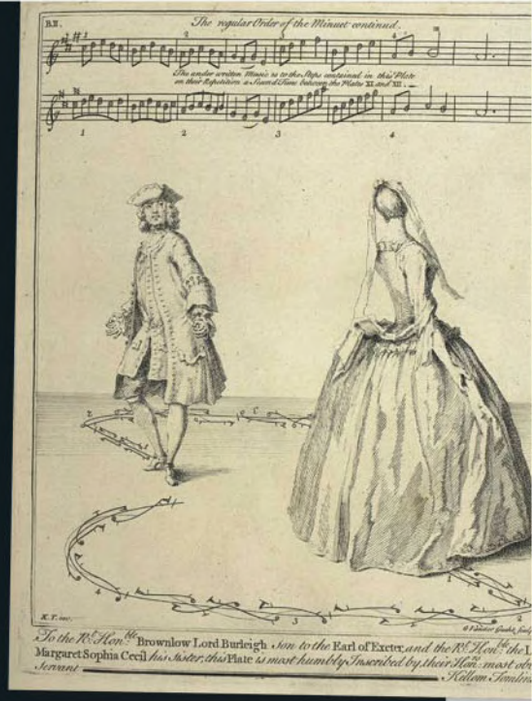


Deep underground at Derinkuyu are storage rooms, chapels and even a school

DID YOU KNOW?

STONE THE CROWS

For centuries, a 'King's Cock-Crower' was employed to wander the royal residence during Lent, crowing the hours instead of announcing them. The custom ended when the future King George II was interrupted at supper. He found the noise insulting.

TRAIL BLAZERS The lines trailing behind the dancers are symbols used to explain the steps



In **Baroque and Regency** times, how did people learn to dance?

With the rise of print in the 17th century, publishers were quick to tap into the universal enthusiasm for dancing, producing manuals of instructions for steps alongside popular tunes. By the turn of the 1700s, books like *The Dancing-Master* and *The Art of Dancing Explained by Reading and Figures* became more sophisticated. Alongside the helpful diagrams, a pioneering French dance notation system indicated particular leg movements, arm flourishes and placement of the feet. Readers picked up single-dance booklets, or longer manuals featuring illustrations of bodily positions, as well as hints for maintaining decorum and general management of the limbs.

Many were written by dancing masters or mistresses, who set up academies around the country to offer coaching in technique. The best way to master the steps was repetition. Lady Caroline Lamb recalled inviting people to her house where steps were "being daily practiced... a number of foreigners coming here to learn". They danced all day, and went to a ball in the evening. In this way, new and radical dances spread quickly around Europe so that, during the Regency era, traditional cotillions (social dances), began to look stale compared to the "riotous and indecent German dance" – the waltz. **EB**

"MY MISSION IN LIFE IS NOT MERELY TO SURVIVE, BUT TO THRIVE; AND TO DO SO WITH SOME PASSION, SOME COMPASSION, SOME HUMOUR, AND SOME STYLE."

MAYA ANGELOU



American author and poet Maya Angelou continues to inspire people all over the world, even with her Facebook status, where these words come from. Yet, for someone whose words are so celebrated, Angelou spent many years of her life silent. As a young girl, she was raped by her mother's boyfriend – for which he was murdered, possibly by her uncles. Feeling guilty and believing that "My voice killed him, I killed that man", Angelou became mute for almost five years.

DID PEOPLE IN TUDOR TIMES HAVE BAD TEETH?

The importance of good oral hygiene was actually well understood in Tudor times. 'Chewsticks', twigs stripped of their bark with one end split and frayed into a brush, were used on teeth and gums (and had natural abilities to combat microbes and bad breath). Nevertheless, Tudor folk did suffer tooth decay and gum disease. The instant treatment for a rotten tooth was pulling it out, so all the bad teeth in Tudor times weren't actually in people's mouths. RM



IN A NUTSHELL

THE REFORMATION

A religious revolution that tore apart the Christian world in the 16th century and created a new faith



DIVIDE AND CONQUER
Martin Luther (far left) sparked the Reformation with his *Ninety-Five Theses* – he also caused furore by translating the Bible (right)

What was it?
The Reformation was a schism in the Catholic Church during the 16th century, which had major political, economic and religious implications and led to the creation of Protestant Christianity.

Why did it begin?
Although there had been previous calls for change, the Reformation started in 1517 when German religious thinker Martin Luther wrote the *Ninety-Five Theses*. He argued for extensive reform of the Catholic Church, then the dominant religious authority in Western Europe. One of the issues that concerned Luther the most was the sale of indulgences, whereby the church allowed people to escape punishment for their sins, but for a fee.

According to legend, Luther nailed his *Theses* to the door of Castle Church in Wittenberg. Whether this is true or not, there is no question about the impact of Luther's arguments. His words tapped into existing frustrations about the state of the church, especially its wealth and power and the widespread corruption of some of its priests. These criticisms were not new and nor was Luther the first to seek to reform the church. Yet, the recent invention of a printing press meant that his ideas spread quickly across Europe, where they reached receptive audiences.

One of his most important publications was a 1534 German translation of the Bible, which allowed far more people to read it for the first time. The Bible had mostly been written in Latin and could only be read by the priests, but now people could form their own opinions of their faith.

How did Luther's arguments lead to a split in the church?
While Luther hoped to reform the church, he did not plan to divide it. His vision of Christianity, however, went against the basic tenets of the Church and the authority of the Pope, so set him on a collision course with the church hierarchy. In 1521, Luther was excommunicated by Pope Leo X. Europe's growing Protestant movement (so-called because they were religious protestors) began to develop outside the Catholic sphere and Protestantism branched out into a number of different strands, including the Lutherans and Calvinists, named after another reformer, John Calvin.

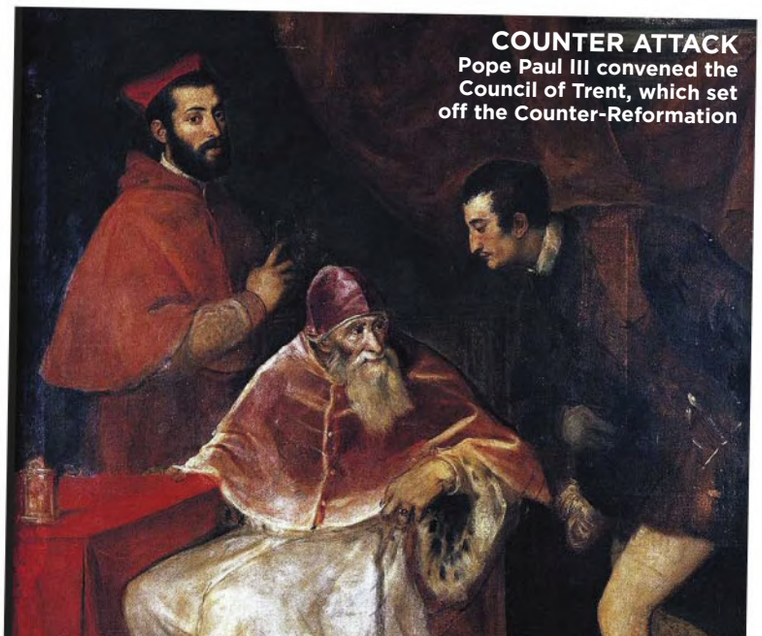
What happened in Britain?
Although some churchmen and thinkers supported reform in England, King Henry VIII initially remained a staunch supporter of the Catholic church. That all changed when he decided he wanted to divorce his first wife, Catherine of Aragon, and marry Anne Boleyn. The Pope refused to allow the divorce, and so Henry and his advisors split the church away from Rome, a process completed in 1534.

Henry became head of the Church of England and, with no need to defer to the Pope, married Anne Boleyn. Taking advantage of his new authority, Henry ordered the disbanding of England's monasteries in order that he could seize their wealth for himself. Despite these changes, Henry continued to be fairly traditional in his religious beliefs, and the Church of England did not take on a fully Protestant character until the reigns of his more reform-minded children, Edward VI and Elizabeth I.

As for Scotland, it had its own reformation led by John Knox, a follower of John Calvin. The Scottish reformers followed England's lead and broke their church away from Rome in 1560.

How did the Catholic Church respond to the Reformation?
It fought back with the Counter-Reformation, a movement beginning in the reign of Pope Paul III (1534–49). The Counter-Reformation sought both to challenge the reformers and to improve some aspects of the church that originally inspired the Reformation. In general, the Counter-Reformation won out in southern Europe, while the Reformation remained stronger in the north of the continent.

What was the legacy of the Reformation?
The Reformation was without doubt one of the most important events in European and world history, leading to the formation of all the branches of Protestantism that exist today. It also resulted in a great deal of violence as Protestant and Catholic powers battled for supremacy in Europe for centuries afterwards. In some places, these wounds have still not completely healed.



COUNTER ATTACK
Pope Paul III convened the Council of Trent, which set off the Counter-Reformation

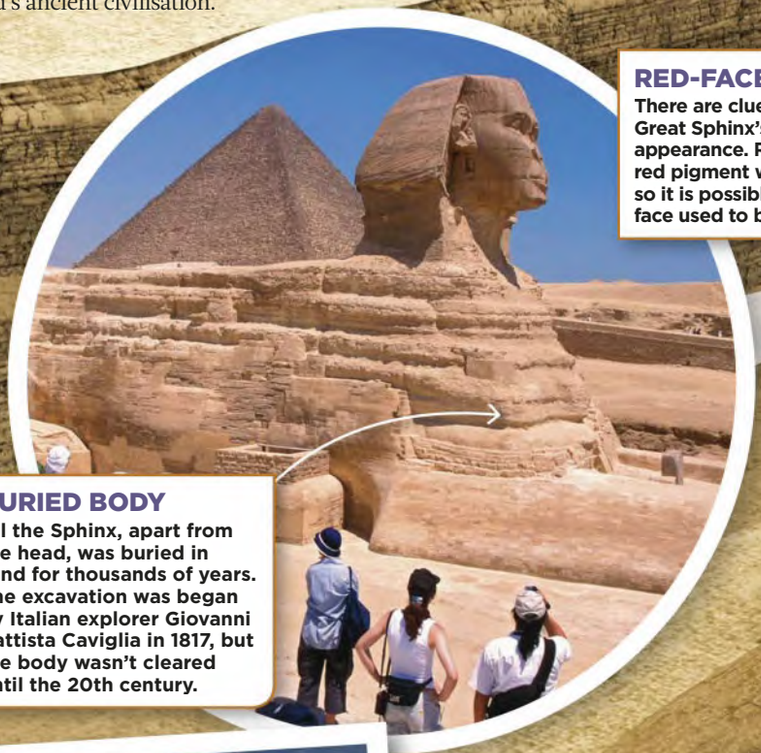
GETTY X4, ISTOCK X1, REX X1, TOPFOTO X1

HOW DID THEY DO THAT?

THE GREAT SPHINX

One of the largest and oldest monolithic statues in the world, the Sphinx continues to keep watch over the Great Pyramids

With the body of a lion and the head of a human, the Great Sphinx, in the Giza Plateau in Egypt, was carved from a single mass of limestone nearly 5,000 years ago. Although the history of the 73-metre-long colossus is steeped in mystery, it is believed to have been constructed during the reign of Pharaoh Khafre – who also built the second of the Great Pyramids – and may bear the ruler's likeness. The Sphinx is a seminal part of Egypt today, attracting millions of tourists every year, as well as a link to the land's ancient civilisation.



BURIED BODY

All the Sphinx, apart from the head, was buried in sand for thousands of years. The excavation was began by Italian explorer Giovanni Battista Caviglia in 1817, but the body wasn't cleared until the 20th century.

RED-FACED

There are clues to the Great Sphinx's original appearance. Residue of red pigment was found, so it is possible the whole face used to be dark red.

A CLOSE SHAVE

When the Sphinx was excavated, fragments of a stone plaited beard were found. It is unlikely to have been part of the original carving, but added some 1,000 years later.

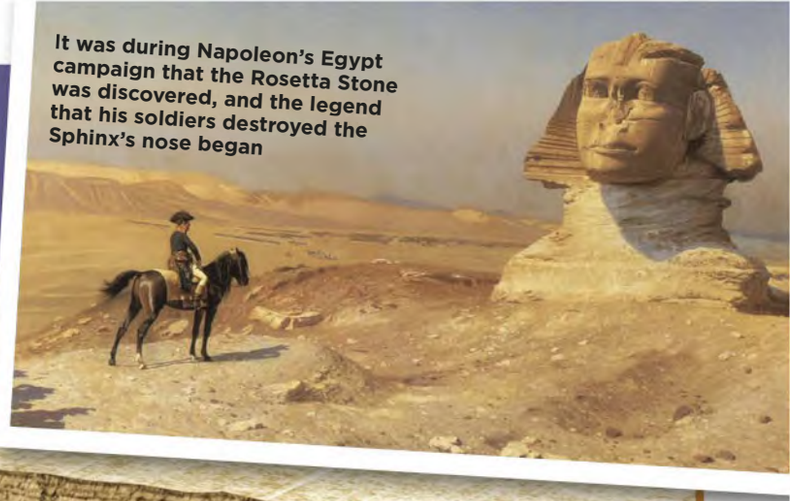


THE DREAM STELA

Between the paws of the Sphinx is a large slab, the Dream Stela, which was erected by Thutmose IV (who reigned 1401–1391 BC) after he ordered restoration work on the statue. It relates a dream Thutmose had as a prince, in which the Sphinx offered him the throne in return for his help rebuilding his body.

WHAT HAPPENED TO THE NOSE OF THE GREAT SPHINX?

The most-repeated legend tells how soldiers in Napoleon's army used the Sphinx for target practice and blew off the nose with a cannonball, but this has been dismissed as illustrations predating Napoleon's time show the statue to be nose-less. A 15th-century document attributes the destruction to a Sufi Muslim named Muhammad Sa'im al-Dahr, who was angered that peasants were making offerings to the Sphinx. He was allegedly executed c1378 for vandalism for attacking the statue and destroying the nose.



It was during Napoleon's Egypt campaign that the Rosetta Stone was discovered, and the legend that his soldiers destroyed the Sphinx's nose began

PHARAOH'S FACE

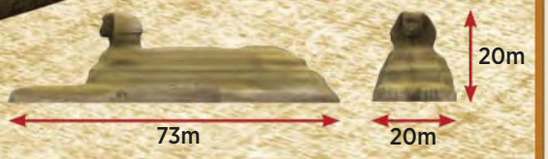
Although a hotly debated subject, it is generally accepted that the face of the Sphinx depicts Pharaoh Khafre himself, who is buried in one of the nearby Great Pyramids of Giza.

LEFT OVERS

Due to the Great Sphinx's position in a deep pit away from the pyramids, it is thought that it was carved in a limestone quarry used for the construction of the Pyramid of Khafre.

PASSAGE OF TIME

The body of the Sphinx, which is of a softer limestone, has eroded more than the head, but it was protected while buried in sand.



GIZA NECROPOLIS

1. Pyramid of Khufu
2. Pyramid of Khafre
3. Mortuary Temple of Khafre
4. Valley Temple of Khafre
5. Temple of the Sphinx
6. Pyramid of Menkaure
7. Tomb of Queen Khentkawes
8. Valley Temple of Menkaure
9. The Queen's Pyramids
10. Tomb of Hemon



THROUGH THE AGES

The Sphinx has attracted explorers, historians and artists from all over Europe and through their work, we can trace the erosion of the statue

1610	1698	1737	1798	1839	1858	1887	1925
George Sandys	Cornelis de Bruijn	Frederic Norden	Vivant Denon	David Roberts	Francis Frith	Henri Béchard	Émile Baraize



ILLUSTRATION: SOL 90, ALAMY X2, GETTY X1

WHY DO WE SAY...?

SPILL THE BEANS



It's time to spill the beans about 'spill the beans'. As the phrase is primarily recorded in 20th-century America, it is probably a simple extension of 'spill' – which has been used to mean 'divulge' or 'reveal' since as early as the 16th century – but there is a long-lasting folk etymology, which goes back much further in history.

A rudimentary system of voting in Ancient Greece, the birthplace of democracy, was to use beans. Voters would be given both a white and a black or brown bean, one of which would be placed in a jar. White beans were a 'yes' vote, while the black or brown stood for 'no'. The idea was to keep the ballot secret, so the jar wouldn't be upended and the beans counted until the end – unless the jar was accidentally knocked over early and the beans spilled.

HOW OLD IS THE TOILET SEAT?

Despite the flushing toilet being a Tudor invention, pioneered by Sir John Harington (godson of Queen Elizabeth I), the history of toilet seats goes back a long way. Communal latrines were a regular feature in Roman towns, with the bottom holes cut into the benches. These *forica* toilets are perhaps 2,000 years old, but they're positively modern compared to the limestone seats carved for posh Egyptians and Harappans (from modern Pakistan), who lived around 4,500 years ago. These seats were placed over simple drainage gullies, which could be manually flushed with water, though poorer people instead used wicker stools with a hole cut in the centre, or squatted over a ceramic pot. As for our hinged toilet seat, that was a Victorian invention more closely associated with Thomas Crapper's company. You'll perhaps be unsurprised to learn Victorian women also complained their husbands piddled all over the seat! **GJ**

DID YOU KNOW?

FLOOD GATES OPENED

In 1938, the Chinese government caused the country's second-largest river, the Huang He (Yellow River), to flood by destroying the dykes in the hope of halting an invading Japanese army, killing countless people. Millions more had died in two previous floods, in 1887 and 1931.

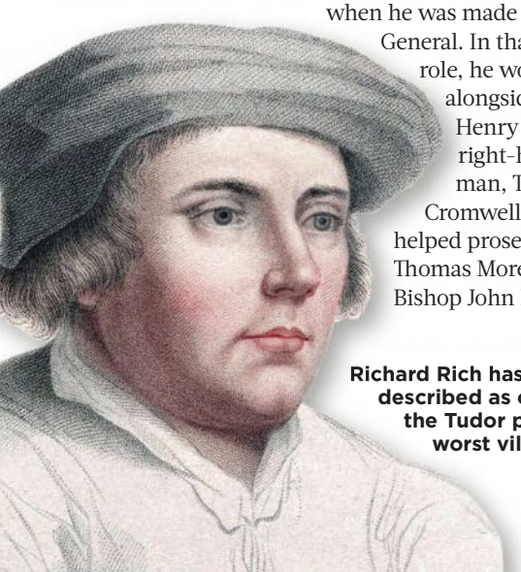


Does Richard Rich deserve his **bad reputation**?

Richard Rich, Baron Rich, is certainly enigmatic. We can not confirm where or when he was born, but his actions as an adult show him to be a cunning, if Machiavellian, character. He rose to power as a lawyer until 1533, when he was made Solicitor General. In that role, he worked alongside King Henry VIII's right-hand man, Thomas Cromwell, and helped prosecute Thomas More and Bishop John Fisher, before turning on Cromwell following his downfall and giving evidence against him.

He went on to preside over the sale of the monastic lands seized by Henry, ensuring that a sizeable portion fell into his own hands. Under Edward VI, he became a baron and loudly supported Edward Seymour, Duke of Somerset, in the Protestant reforms of the later 1540s, going as far as prosecuting bishops who did not support reforms. Yet in 1551, he was an important figure in the trial of Somerset, then switched back to Catholicism when Mary came to the throne and joined her Privy Council.

When Mary died and her sister, Elizabeth, came to the throne, Rich somehow retained a position of influence, despite the huge political shift. How a man so deeply mired in corruption, treachery and perjury managed to flourish through so many different regimes is unclear. It makes it difficult to question his skills as a lawyer as his services must have made up for his shortcomings. **RM**



Richard Rich has been described as one of the Tudor period's worst villains

WHEN DID PEOPLE START HAVING PETS?

In Belgium, the skull of a domesticated canine was discovered dating back 31,700 years. What's more, in a 16,500-year-old grave in Uyun al-Hammam, Jordan, a man's skeleton was found buried alongside fox remains. It was clear both bodies had been relocated from another grave, so it's plausible to see a connection between person and animal – or why else were they so carefully moved? The bond between people and pets could go back to the Stone Age, when working animals were first used. GJ

THE TRUSTEES OF THE BRITISH MUSEUM X1, GETTY X2, ISTOCK X4



Major General Richard Montgomery led the Patriots' failed invasion of Quebec but died in battle

5

The number of horses killed from under Marshal Ney, a French commander at the Battle of Waterloo.

Why did Canada not join the colonies in the American Revolutionary War?

At the time of the American Revolutionary War, 'Canada' was not a single country but regions, two of the most powerful of which were Nova Scotia and former French colony of Quebec. Given that half the population of Nova Scotia were New Englanders, you might have thought that they would have eagerly supported the American rebels, and some did head south, but in the end, Nova Scotia's isolation and large British military presence ensured it remained loyal to the Crown.

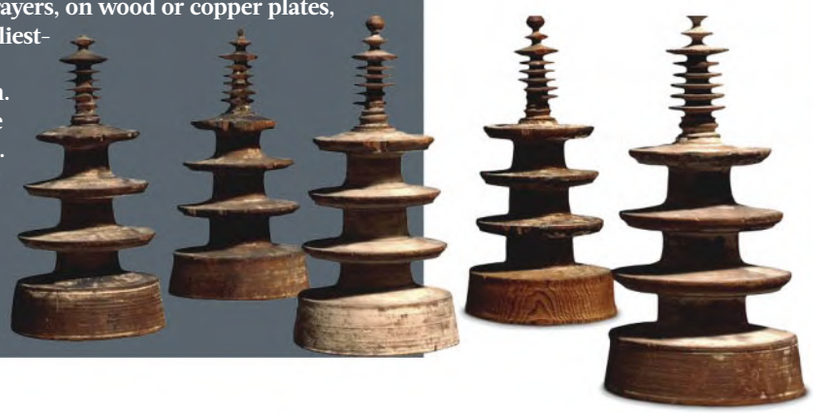
Similarly, it could be thought that the French Canadians of Quebec would have jumped at the chance of getting back at their English masters. But Parliament's Quebec Act of 1774 had guaranteed their language, right to practice Roman Catholicism and French civil law, and this was in marked contrast to the rebels who had denounced the Act and its provisions.

For the French Canadians, it was largely a case of 'better the devil you know than the devil you don't know' and the majority stayed out of the conflict altogether. An attempt in late 1775 by the American rebels to capture Quebec ended in defeat and, the following year, a bid to persuade its inhabitants to rally to the cause of independence was an abject failure. **JH**

WHAT IS IT?

These may look like early chess pieces, but these wooden ornaments from the eighth century are not for playing – and there are far too many for a standard chess board. These *stūpas* are just five of the 1 million made on the orders of Japan's Empress Shōtoku.

In AD 764, the Empress wanted to give thanks for a victory in battle, so she ordered one million prayer strips to be spread between the great monasteries in Japan, each housed in a 21.5cm-tall *stūpa*. The prayers, on wood or copper plates, are thought to be the earliest-surviving examples of printed material in Japan. These five are held by the British Museum, London. *www.britishmuseum.org*



FIVE IN A MILLION
In each of these is a prayer, in thanksgiving of a military victory

WHEN WAS TOBACCO FIRST THOUGHT TO BE DANGEROUS?

The story of tobacco in England has been chequered from the outset. After it was introduced, it was deemed a medical cure for illnesses – in contrast with the views of several notable people. In his 1604 treatise, *A Counterblaste to Tobacco*, King James I of England and VI of Scotland described it as "harmful to the brain, dangerous to the lungs" and soon after, the great scientist Francis Bacon noted tobacco as highly addictive. Samuel Pepys also wrote in 1665 about witnessing a cat being killed by a small dose of distilled tobacco oil. Still, it took another century for Dr John Hill to show that snuff tobacco could cause nose cancer, and yet another 80 years elapsed before doctors began debating the safety of smoking. A proper body of scientific data was assembled in the sixties, but the tobacco companies successfully fought it. Intriguingly, we may see the whole pattern begin again with the growth of electronic cigarettes. GJ



NOW SEND US YOUR QUESTIONS

Wondering about a particular historical happening? Get in touch – our expert panel has the answer!

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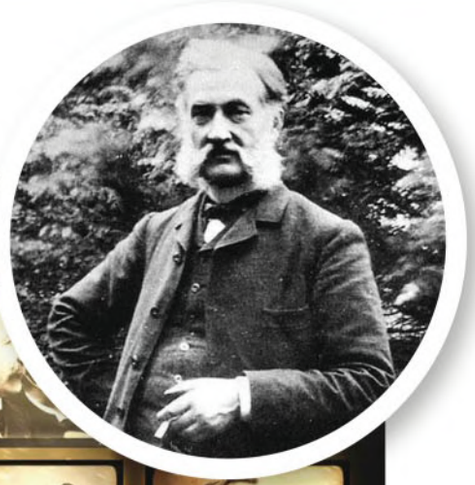
Want to enjoy more history? Our monthly guide to activities and resources is a great place to start

HERE&NOW

BRITAIN'S TREASURES... STONEHENGE 92 • **BOOKS** 94

ON OUR RADAR

What's caught our attention this month...



Louis Le Prince (right) is not as famous a name as Thomas Edison or the Lumiére Brothers, but he may be the most important pioneer in film

FILM

The First Film

In select cinemas 3 July
www.thefirstfilm.co.uk

Filmmaker David Nicholas Wilkinson wants to tell an important story in his documentary *The First Film*. It focuses on the life and work of **French inventor Louis Le Prince** who, despite not being a well-known name, was the **first person to film moving pictures** – a feat he accomplished in 1888 in Leeds.

Why is his contribution to the history of film not recognised? Well, weeks before demonstrating his projection machine, Le Prince boarded a train to Paris and was **never seen again**. His competitors, Thomas Edison and the Lumiére Brothers, took the glory and Le Prince faded into relative obscurity. Wilkinson's film is a noble attempt to redress this, and put Le Prince in the history books where he belongs.

AERIAL DISPLAYS

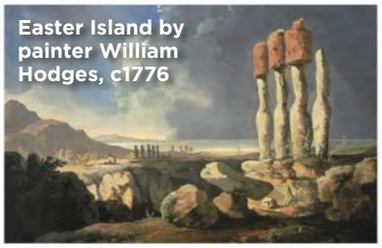
Scotland's National Airshow 2015

25 July, starting at 10am, at National Museum of Flight, East Lothian
www.nms.ac.uk/national-museum-of-flight

All eyes will be gazing at the skies as a host of aircraft, both old and new, take part in Scotland's annual airshow. As we mark the 75th anniversary of the **Battle of Britain**, the afternoon of aerial displays would not be complete without the familiar sounds of the **Spitfire, Hurricane and Lancaster**, but the roster of World War II craft is further enhanced by a Swordfish and Bristol Blenheim. For those looking for thrills, the **RAF Red Arrows** will be performing one of their heart-racing aerobatic displays. As long as the Sun is shining, it promises to be a spectacular day.



A Lancaster bomber will be flying, thanks to the Battle of Britain Memorial Flight group



Easter Island by painter William Hodges, c1776

EXHIBITION

Art and Science of Exploration 1768-80

Ends 26 July, www.rmg.co.uk

See the world as observed by **Captain Cook** and his expedition artists with this striking exhibition at Queen's House, Greenwich.



Create your own masterpiece, no matter your age

WORKSHOP

Mosaics

25 July, 2pm, at the National Roman Legion Museum, Newport
www.museumwales.ac.uk/roman

As part of the Festival of Archaeology, Dr Mark Lewis will piece together the **story of mosaics**. For just £5, both adults and children will get a chance to handle genuine fragments of mosaic – and make their own!


On display is this ornately decorated conical hat, woven from spruce

TOUR

Native North Americans

19 July, 12.30pm, at Bristol Museum and Art Gallery
www.bristolmuseums.org.uk

This is an excellent chance to have a behind-the-scenes tour of Bristol Museum and Art Gallery's collections, led by one of the World Cultures curators. This month, the many disparate cultures of **Native North American tribes** are explored – through examining how a variety of artefacts, from clothing to tools, were made and used.



Some of the worst bombing of the Blitz happened in Manchester in December 1940

EXHIBITION

Horrible Histories: Blitzed Brits

Opens 11 July at IWM North, Manchester, ***www.iwm.org.uk/visits/iwm-north***

On the 75th anniversary, experience what life was like during the Blitz in the unique way that only *Horrible Histories* can offer. This irreverent, interactive exhibition allows you to **walk through a forties house**, hear stories from evacuees and get up close to fascinating objects, such as a cigarette lighter that saved the life of an Air Raid warden and a target map used by Nazi bombers. The whole thing is **narrated by *Horrible Histories* author Terry Deary** and boasts new animations by series illustrator Martin Brown.

EXHIBITION

Cosmos and Culture

Opens 23 July at the Science Museum, London
www.sciencemuseum.org.uk

For millennia – from the Stone Age to the Space Age – people have been intrigued by the night sky. The Science Museum's latest exhibition tells the **story of astronomy**, which has inspired some of history's greatest scientists to unlock some of the secrets of the universe. To achieve this, they used an array of **beautiful and bewildering instruments**, many of which are on display with guides to how they work.


Find out how Isaac Newton's telescope (this is a replica) and an armillary sphere work

ALSO LOOK OUT FOR

▶ Waterloo Weekend at Apsley House, London, 11-12 July – mark 200 years since the Battle of Waterloo with Napoleonic War reconstructions
▶ Starting on the History Channel, 14 July at 10pm, *Black Sails* is set in the cut-throat world of piracy in the 18th century and is loosely based on the novel *Treasure Island*

ISTOCK X1, BRISTOL MUSEUMS, GALLERIES & ARCHIVES X1, SCIENCE MUSEUM X2, NATIONAL MARITIME MUSEUM, LONDON X1, IWM NORTH X2



ENGLISH HERITAGE/ROBERT SMITH X2; ENGLISH HERITAGE X5

BRITAIN'S TREASURES...

STONEHENGE WILTSHIRE

A few minutes' drive north of the A303 in Wiltshire sits one of the true wonders of the world, a Neolithic monument that has wowed visitors for thousands of years...

THE FACTS

GETTING THERE: Off the A360 near Amesbury in Wiltshire (sat nav postcode SP3 4DX). Buses run from Salisbury.
TIMES AND PRICES: Summer hours 9am-8pm. Tickets £8.70-£14.50, advance booking required.
FIND OUT MORE: For general enquiries call: 0370 333 1181 or visit *www.english-heritage.org.uk/visit/places/stonehenge/*



When Cecil Chubb left the 21 September 1915 auction hosted by Knight, Frank and Rutley of Salisbury, he was £6,600 lighter of pocket. The catalogue described Lot 15, which he bought, as comprising "Stonehenge with about 30 acres, 2 rods, 37 perches of adjoining downland". In the century since Chubb's purchase of what may well be the most celebrated and mysterious neolithic site in the world, some have suggested that he bought it on a whim, while others have claimed that he bought it for his wife, going on to boast that it was only after she was dissatisfied with the gift that Chubb donated the prehistoric monument to the nation. It is believed that Chubb felt strongly that the stones should be bought by a local man, rather than some foreign investor.

Whatever the truth behind his impulsive purchase, the iconic structure has been in the public domain ever since, and, in the intervening decades, has undergone extensive restoration and been subject to a great many research projects to determine its purpose and origin.

HOW AND WHY

Around 3000 BC, simple antler tools were used to dig a circular ditch at the site, within which a ring of 56 wooden or stone posts was erected. Around 500 years later, stones were raised to form a



CIRCLE OF LIFE
The purpose of this ancient monument may never be known

WHAT TO LOOK FOR...



NEW BUILDS
The new visitor centre was opened 1.5 miles from the stones in 2013, offering fresh insight into the site.



CENTRE OF THE CIRCLE
Inside the exhibition centre, a 360° virtual tour shows how the stone circle looks from the inside.



NEOLITHIC HOUSES
Inside the reconstructed Neolithic houses, you can get a feel for life in the area 4,500 years ago.



EXHIBITS
Hundreds of prehistoric objects are displayed at the visitor centre, from arrow heads to pottery.



PULL YOUR WEIGHT
This reconstruction shows how the stones may have been transported over 150 miles.



SUNRISE
Sunrise – especially at summer solstice – is a magical time to enjoy the wonder of Stonehenge.

"Stones came from south-west Wales, some 150 miles away..."

monument. Two types of stones were used to build Stonehenge. Giant sarsen stones were probably brought to the site from the Marlborough Downs, around 20 miles away – an extraordinary effort given the basic tools available to Neolithic people. But that is as nothing compared to the journey made by the smaller bluestones, which seem to have been brought from the Preseli Hills, some 150 miles away in south-west Wales.

Once at the site, the stones were shaped and carved, before being raised. Tongue-and-groove joints were used to link the top stones, which were then fixed on top of the standing stones using tenon-and-mortise joints.

There are many theories as to what Stonehenge was for, including burial or cremation site, place of healing and even an astronomical computer, used to work out the dates of events such as eclipses. However, it seems most likely that it was built as a temple aligned with the movements of the Sun.

PLAN YOUR VISIT

Today, Stonehenge is managed by English Heritage, while the surrounding land is owned by the National Trust (members of either organisation get free entry to the site, as do local residents). A new visitor and exhibition centre was opened in 2013 1.5 miles from the monument, outside of which are five reconstructed Neolithic houses that offer a glimpse into what life would have been like for the people who built Stonehenge some 4,500 years ago. Inside the visitor centre, you can enjoy a virtual tour of Stonehenge throughout the year, experiencing the winter and summer solstices that have drawn Druids, Pagans, New Age travellers and other visitors to the stones for centuries. There's also an exhibition exploring how and why the monument was built, featuring hundreds of artefacts. You can either take a shuttle to the stones from the centre, or simply walk, taking in the ancient landscape as you step back in time.

It is no longer possible to actually walk freely among the stones, which have been roped off since the seventies due to damage caused by erosion. However, certain exceptions are made, such as at summer and winter solstices – be sure to book well in advance for these. Although with around 1 million visitors a year, it's worth booking whenever you visit.

WHY NOT VISIT...

Here are some other ancient sites nearby to make more of your visit...

OLD SARUM, SALISBURY

The remains of the Salisbury hill fort span Iron Age, Roman, Saxon and Norman civilisations.
www.english-heritage.org.uk/visit/places/old-sarum/

AVEBURY STONE CIRCLE

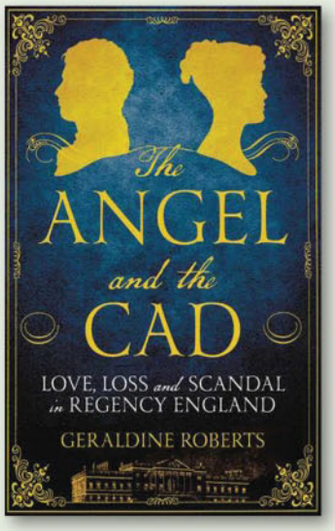
Get up close to the stones at Avebury's Neolithic henge.
www.nationaltrust.org.uk/avebury

ROMAN BATHS, BATH

The best-preserved ancient Roman temple and baths in northern Europe.
www.romanbaths.co.uk

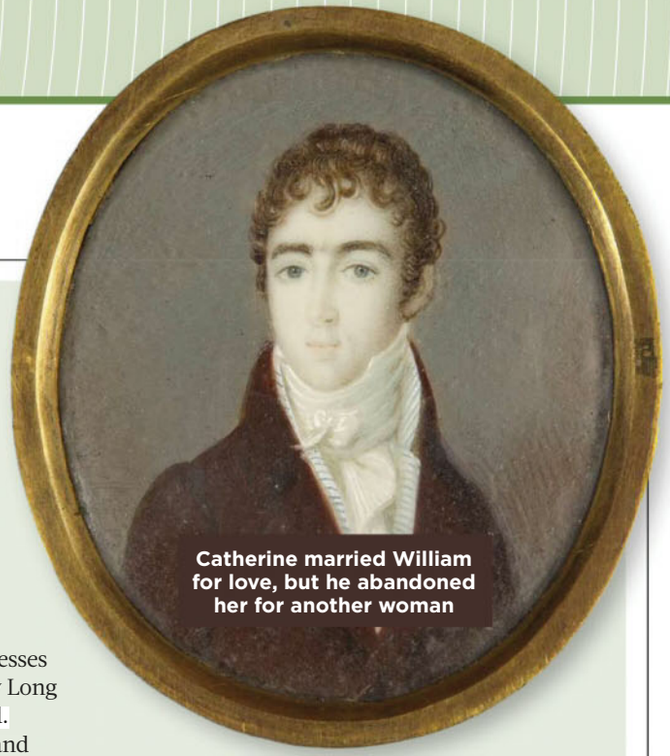
BOOKS

BOOK OF THE MONTH



The Angel and the Cad: Love, Loss and Scandal in Regency England

By Geraldine Roberts
£20, Macmillan, 352 pages, hardback


Catherine married William for love, but he abandoned her for another woman

As one of the wealthiest, most eligible heiresses in 19th-century England, Catherine Tylney Long could choose any husband that she desired. Even members of the royalty sought her hand in marriage. Tragically, she turned all the offers before her and opted for the Duke of Wellington's foolish nephew William, a man for whom the terms 'cad' and 'bounder' seem barely sufficient. At the start, it was all glittering parties and high-life gossip, but the couple descended into scandal and shame as William frittered their fortune away. Geraldine Roberts gives a compassionate look at two wholly disparate personalities and the wider society in which they span their elegant, and ultimately ruinous, lives.

MEET THE AUTHOR

Geraldine Roberts invites us to meet one of history's most remarkable, if little-known, women, and her hapless rake of a husband

What inspired you to write this book?
I worked in a bank and never had the slightest intention or desire to write a book. All that changed when I chanced upon Catherine – her story astonished and intrigued me. Her letters particularly moved me as she seemed so genuine and sincere. For some inexplicable reason, I felt compelled to tell her story.

Did Catherine know what she was letting herself in for when she married William?
Catherine loved William because he was good-natured, amusing and charming. She was well aware of his recklessness, but this was part of his allure. Catherine could have played it safe and settled for someone staid, but she followed her heart and married a man who thrilled and excited her. She must have known that this would bring challenges, but she certainly got far more than she bargained for.

What motivated William to behave like such a cad?
William was a thrill-seeker who revelled in excess. He lived in the moment, spending extravagantly, partying hard and chasing women, which was not unusual for the time, but William took impropriety to a new level. His natural impulses were compounded by his sense of entitlement. He thought he could get away with anything because English law provided very little protection for married women.

What does this episode tell us about society and gender relations in the period?
Regency society was resolutely male dominated. The law granted a husband absolute power over his wife, including control of her body. He could seize all her earnings and property, use her sexually whenever he desired and beat her (within reason).

Catherine's story, however, marked a shift in attitudes. The public of the day adored Catherine, she was their 'angel'. As the twists and turns of her marriage unfolded in the press, William's behaviour was causing a scandal and a landmark custody battle. The trial was front-page news, sparking a debate about moral standards that ultimately helped to redefine the role of men and women in society.

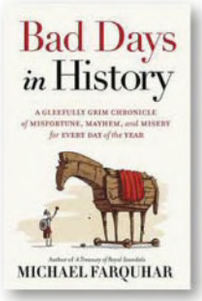
If you could ask Catherine or William a question, what would it be?
My question for Catherine: if you could live your life over again, what would you do differently? My question for William, just for the devilment: do you think that women should get the vote?

"The law granted a husband absolute power over his wife"



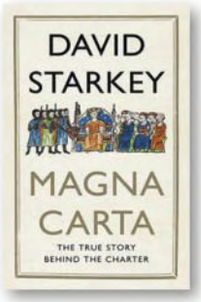
THE STRATFIELD SAYE PRESERVATION TRUST X1, GETTY X1

THE BEST OF THE REST



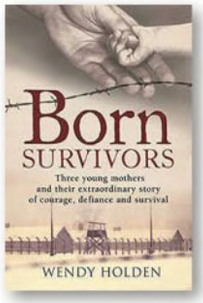
Bad Days in History: a Gleefully Grim Chronicle of Misfortune, Mayhem, and Misery for Every Day of the Year
By Michael Farquhar
£17, National Geographic Society, 496 pages, hardback

This wry almanac contains a bite-sized entry of one of the more negative episodes in human history for every day of the year, such as the investor who withdrew from Apple, losing millions, and the flood of molasses that caused havoc in 1919.



Magna Carta: the True Story Behind the Charter
By David Starkey £18.99, Hodder and Stoughton, 304 pages, hardback

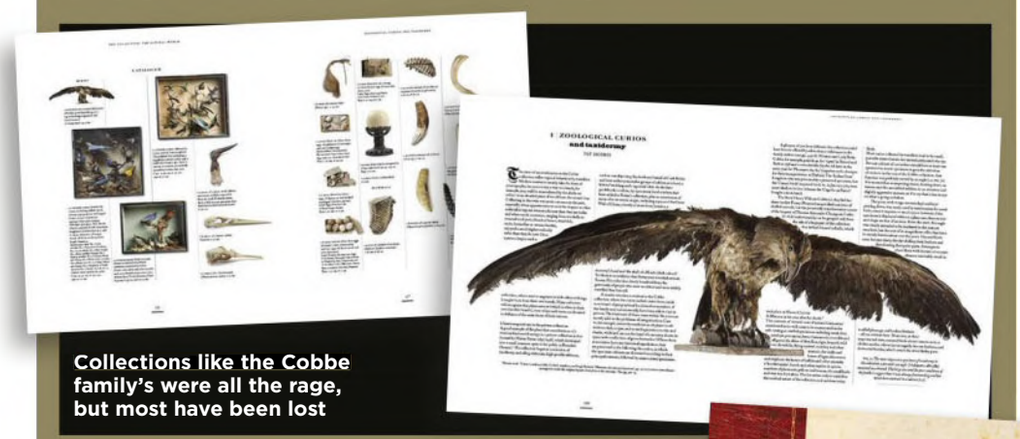
The 800-year-old Magna Carta is seen as a significant charter for human freedoms and democracy. David Starkey, however, offers an alternative take on 'The Great Charter' of 1215 and its creation. We learn that it didn't give us much in the way of human rights and took more than a decade to hammer out. Oh, and, never say that it was signed.



Born Survivors: Three Young Mothers and their Extraordinary Story of Courage, Defiance and Survival
By Wendy Holden
£18.99, Sphere, 400 pages, hardback

Priska, Rachel and Anka were three of the millions of people sent to Auschwitz during World War II. Yet, all three had a secret – they were pregnant. Their remarkable journeys make for a harrowing read, but among the horrors and nightmares are moments of kindness and beauty.

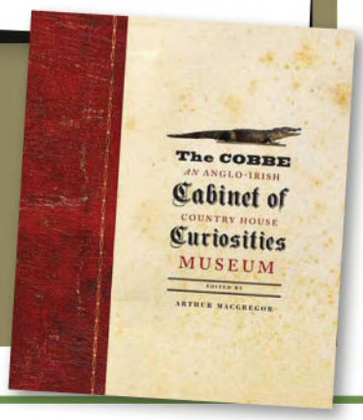
VISUAL BOOK OF THE MONTH



Collections like the Cobbe family's were all the rage, but most have been lost

The Cobbe Cabinet of Curiosities: an Anglo-Irish Country House Museum
Edited by Arthur MacGregor
£75, Yale University Press, 400 pages, hardback

You may be put off by the price tag, but if you want a stunning tour of one well-to-do Enlightenment family's array of eclectic possessions – maps, stuffed birds and all – then make this your beautiful, glossily-produced guide.



READ UP ON...

FLIGHT

From the brave pioneers to today's globe-spanning industry, the history of flight is a fascinating mix of science, technology and adventure...



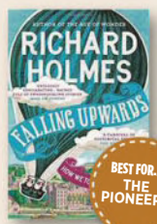
Charles Lindbergh lands in Paris in 1927, having completed the first non-stop transatlantic flight



BEST FOR... A VISUAL OVERVIEW

Flight: 100 Years of Aviation
By RG Grant (2002)

While it skews slightly towards the modern end of aviation's history, this well-produced visual guide to a century of flight is surprisingly detailed, and packed with striking images throughout.



BEST FOR... THE PIONEERS

Falling Upwards: How we Took to the Air
By Richard Holmes (2013)

An entertaining look at the adventurers, scientists and showmen who took to the air in balloons in the 18th and 19th centuries. By risking their lives in unknown contraptions, they pioneered a whole new form of travel.



BEST FOR... THE GOLDEN AGE

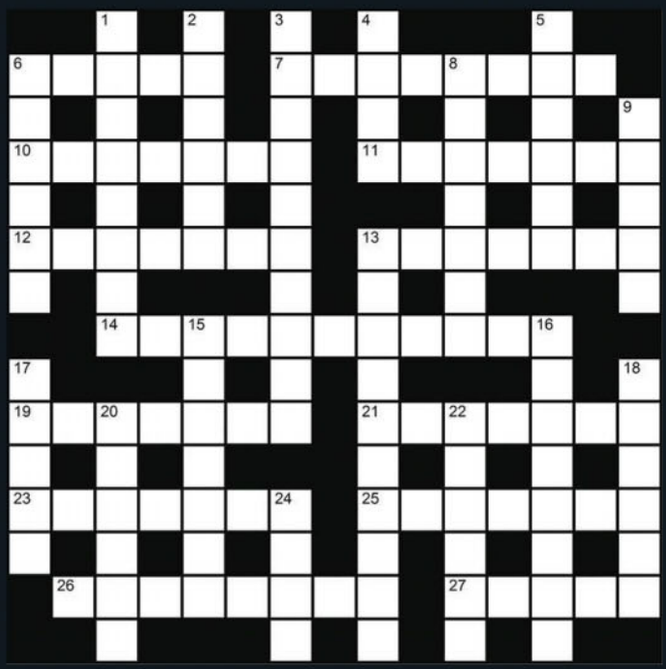
One Summer: America 1927
By Bill Bryson (2013)

It's not just about flight, but included in non-fiction favourite Bill Bryson's evocative trip to 1927 is aviator Charles Lindbergh and his 33-hour non-stop trip from New York to Paris. Bryson conveys the optimism and energy of the age effortlessly.

CROSSWORD Nº 18

Test your history knowledge to solve our prize puzzle – and you could win a fantastic new book

Set by Richard Smyth



ACROSS

6 Soviet state security agency, a forerunner of the KGB (5)
7 Ocean-going vessel designed by the Vikings for war, trade and exploration (8)
10 Ancient city found in north-eastern Italy (7)
11 ___ Hall, notoriously corrupt and powerful Democrat Party political machine, established in 18th-century New York (7)
12 The Bank of England is sometimes known as 'The ___ of Threadneedle Street' (3,4)
13/4 In legend, this intractable problem was solved sharply by Alexander the Great (7,4)
14 Fiscal policies named after the 40th President of the United States (11)
19 Claude-Achille ___ (1862–1918), French composer, best known for *Clair de Lune* (7)
21 Antonio ___, mandolin-playing Italian captain in a 1994 novel (7)
23 RMS ___, passenger liner sunk by an iceberg in 1912 (7)
25 *The* ___ *Verses*, Salman Rushdie's inflammatory novel, published in 1988 (7)
26 "Whosoever shall say, Thou fool, shall be in danger of ___" – Gospel of St Matthew (4,4)
27/20 Character played by Clark Gable in the Oscar-winning classic, *Gone With The Wind* (1939) (5,6)

DOWN

1 ___ of the Faith – the title conferred on King Henry VIII in 1521 by Pope Leo X (8)
2 Small town in Portugal, noted for a series of religious visions in 1917 (6)
3 The nickname given to Queen Mary I because of her persecution and executions of Protestants (6,4)
4 See 13 Across
5 The capital city of Rwanda since 1962 (6)
6 King __ – the term used by the Confederacy prior to the American Civil War to prove the South's economic independence (6)
8 Member of a noble Japanese warrior caste (7)
9 City annexed by France in 1312 (5)
13 Duke of ___, the title given in 1461 to Richard, brother of Edward IV and future King (10)
15 Modern name for the football club founded in 1886 as Dial Square (7)
16 JD ___ (1919–2010), American author of *The Catcher In The Rye* (8)
17 ___ of Wessex, wife of Edward the Confessor (5)
18 The ___ Club, Whig literary and political group in early 18th century London (3-3)
20 See 27 Across
22 The ___ engine was used in aircraft during World War I (6)
24 Son of Adam and Eve and murderous brother of Abel (4)

CHANCE TO WIN...

Fighter Pilot

by Helen Doe
From a trainee pilot who believed he was the worst in his squadron to a decorated hero of the Battle of Britain, this is the cinematic story of Bob Doe's remarkable World War II, written by his daughter. Published by Amberley, £25.



BOOK WORTH £25 FOR THREE WINNERS

HOW TO ENTER

Post entries to **History Revealed, July 2015 Crossword, PO Box 501, Leicester LE94 0AA** or email them to **july2015@historyrevealedcomps.co.uk** by noon on **23 July 2015**. By entering, participants agree to be bound by the terms and conditions shown in the box below. Immediate Media Co Ltd, publishers of *History Revealed*, would love to keep you informed by post or telephone of special offers and promotions from the Immediate Media Co Group. Please write 'Do Not Contact IMC' if you prefer not to receive such information by post or phone. If you would like to receive this information by email, please write your email address on the entry. You may unsubscribe from receiving these messages at any time. For more about the Immediate Privacy Policy, see the box below.

SOLUTION Nº 16



CROSSWORD COMPETITION TERMS & CONDITIONS

The competition is open to all UK residents (inc. Channel Islands), aged 18 or over, except Immediate Media Co Bristol Ltd employees or contractors, and anyone connected with the competition or their direct family members. By entering, participants agree to be bound by these terms and conditions and that their name and county may be released if they win. Only one entry per person.

The closing date and time is as shown under **How to Enter**, above. Entries received after that will not be considered. Entries cannot be returned. Entrants must supply full name, address and daytime phone number. Immediate Media Company (publishers of ***History Revealed***) will only ever use personal details for the purposes of administering this competition, and will not publish them or provide them to anyone without permission. Read more about the Immediate Privacy Policy at www.immediatemedia.co.uk/privacy-policy.

The winning entrants will be the first correct entries drawn at random after the closing time. The prize and number of winners will be as shown on the Crossword page. There is no cash alternative and the prize will not be transferable. Immediate Media Company Bristol Limited's decision is final and no correspondence relating to the competition will be entered into. The winners will be notified by post within 28 days of the close of the competition. The name and county of residence of the winners will be published in the magazine within two months of the closing date. If the winner is unable to be contacted within one month of the closing date, Immediate Media Company Bristol Limited reserves the right to offer the prize to a runner-up.

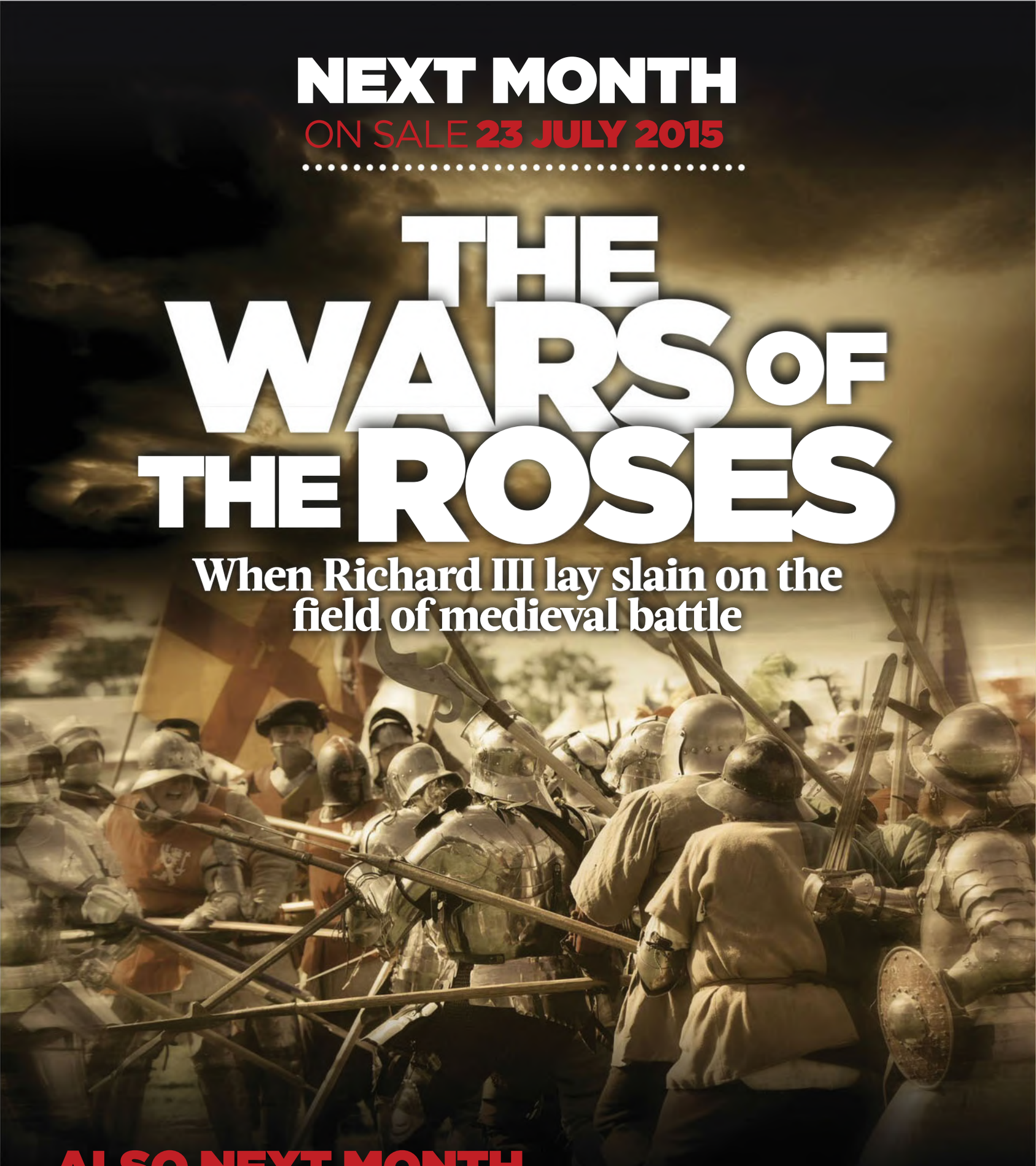
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NEXT MONTH

ON SALE **23 JULY 2015**

THE WARS OF THE ROSES

When Richard III lay slain on the field of medieval battle



ALAMY

ALSO NEXT MONTH...

CHE GUEVARA BATTLE OF LEPANTO **POMPEII** HEDY LAMARR **HAMPTON COURT PALACE** THE LEWIS AND CLARK EXPEDITION **THE STORY OF MEDICINE** CAVE PAINTING **Q&A AND MORE...**

HISTORY REVEALED Bringing the past to life

A–Z of History

Greetings to a grand gathering of glorious gospel truths, given by the great and gabbling **Nige Tassell** with gusto!

GAGARIN ON THE GROUND

Before finding worldwide celebrity as the first man to orbit Earth, Yuri Gagarin endured a tough upbringing. The family home, in the Russian village of Klushino, was commandeered by Nazi personnel during the German occupation, forcing the Gagarins into a mud hut on surrounding land. Yuri, his parents and three siblings lived in the three-metre-square hut for nearly two years.

Garvey's gone too early

In nearly all cases, the obituary follows the death. Not so for Jamaica-born black nationalist leader Marcus Garvey who, in 1940, read a premature – and, crucially, negative – obituary of himself in the influential newspaper, the *Chicago Defender*. He was recovering from a stroke at the time, and died (for real) a few days later.

GOLFER-IN-CHIEF

Many US Presidents have loved golf, but none more so than Dwight Eisenhower. Not only does Ike's Pond sit on the Augusta National course (home of the Masters) but, in 1954, Eisenhower also authorised the construction of a putting green on the White House lawn, only yards from the Oval Office.



GREAT BALLS OF FIRE

In 1666, the Great Fire of London devastated the capital, destroying 87 churches and in the region of 13,200 houses, leaving at least 100,000 homeless – about a sixth of the city's population. Despite this, only six deaths were officially recorded as being a direct result of the blaze itself.

BIT OF A GIZA

The largest of the three pyramids at Giza, the Great Pyramid, is believed to have measured 146.5 metres tall when constructed c2560 BC (it gradually shrunk as it has eroded over the centuries). Its stature meant it was the world's tallest man-made structure for more than 3,800 years, until it was eclipsed by Lincoln Cathedral in 1311.

GALILEO'S GRAVE

When the great Italian scientist and polymath Galileo Galilei died in 1642, the plan was to bury him in the main space of the Basilica of Santa Croce in Florence, his grave adorned with a marble mausoleum. The father of modern science, however, ended up being interred in a small room at the end of one of the building's corridors, following protests from the Catholic Church who viewed him with a "vehement suspicion of heresy".

Neanderthals in Gibraltar

Aside from the long-running dispute between Spain and Britain over its sovereignty, Gibraltar has fascinated historians for another reason. In 2006, the dating of remains found in a Gibraltan cave confirmed the peninsula as the last known location of Neanderthals in Europe, who lived 24,000 years ago.

GUMMY GANDHI

Poor health caused most of Mahatma Gandhi's teeth to fall out. Yet, even after he had renounced personal possessions, the Indian leader carried a set of dentures with him in his loincloth, to be worn during meals. The false gnashers are now on display in the National Gandhi Museum in New Delhi.

ILLUSTRATION: DAWN COOPER

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